

2025

Annual Report

City of Hibbing

[www.hibbingmn.gov](http://www.hibbingmn.gov)



# DEAR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS,

I am pleased to present the City of Hibbing's Annual Report for 2025. This report reflects the dedication and hard work of our city staff, elected officials, and community partners throughout the year. As we continue to evolve as a community, this document highlights the key accomplishments, challenges, and financial stewardship that have shaped the city's progress in the past year.

As your City Administrator, it is my privilege to provide an overview of the work done to improve public services, infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life for our residents. Some of our goals for 2025 focused on maintaining fiscal responsibility, enhancing community engagement, and reinvesting in Hibbing.

Throughout the year, we made significant strides in several areas, including fiscal stewardship, key infrastructure improvements, addressing blight, and diversification of tax base. We also faced some challenges, which have been addressed with thoughtful planning and collaboration among city departments and local stakeholders.

As always, our financial position remains strong, and we are committed to continuing to make responsible decisions to safeguard Hibbing's future. The attached report includes information on performance indicators that help measure our success.

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the City Council for the unwavering support and collaboration. Your leadership is integral to the success of Hibbing, and I look forward to working with each of you in the year ahead to further strengthen our community.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the betterment of Hibbing. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information regarding the contents of this report.

**Greg Pruszinske** | City Administrator

*Thank You*  
**2025**  
**City**  
**Council**

**Pete Hyduke** | Mayor

**James Bayliss** | Councilor | Ward 1

**Justin Fosso** | Councilor | Member-at-Large

**Jay Hildenbrand** | Councilor | Ward 2

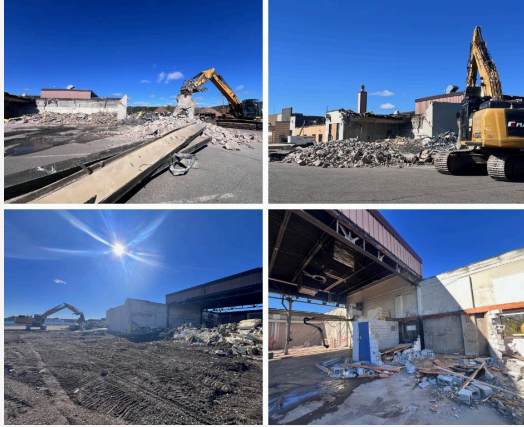
**Jennifer Hoffman-Saccoman** | Councilor | Ward 3

**Chris Whitney** | Councilor | Ward 4

**John Schweiberger** | Councilor | Member-at-Large



# MILESTONES



The new regional **Public Safety Center** project was designed, permits were sought, bid packages for demolition and construction were awarded, and a groundbreaking ceremony was held on Oct. 29. Demolition of the existing structures was completed, with crews excavating approximately 10,000 cubic yards of material to accommodate the building footprint and supporting infrastructure. The first pour for concrete foundation walls was Dec. 9 and will continue through January. Precast concrete wall panels are slated to arrive on site in mid-February to begin building erection.

The **400 Block Redevelopment Project** is currently advancing through the demolition and pre-development phases on parallel paths, with HEDA having secured control of the key downtown parcels and completed the structural and blight analyses necessary to justify redevelopment. Rebound Partners has been selected as the developer, and their proposal — **The Iron Exchange at 400** — is the working concept for a mixed-use project featuring housing, commercial space, and improved parking capacity. Dore & Associates has been selected for the demolition work and began mobilization to the site in December of 2025. The project remains aligned with the City's Comprehensive and Strategic Plans and is progressing toward final negotiations, design refinement, financing, and the next stages of due diligence.



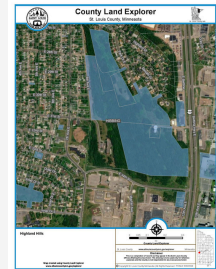
The **Advanced Machine Guarding Solutions (AMGS) Expansion** project reached substantial completion in late summer of 2025.

The company has established operations in the new 35,000 square foot facility on 13th Street in North Hibbing and is looking forward to a busy year in 2026.



## The Jefferson School

Redevelopment site is moving forward with due diligence for a future housing development. This entails property surveys, wetland delineation, HazMat inspections of the building, along with review of the building for potential redevelopment. Based on the work in 2025, the HEDA board will be applying for a demolition grant with the state to create a shovel-ready site for new housing in 2026.



The **Highland Hills Housing Project** completed phase 3 of a four-phase predevelopment cycle with concept designs and budgetary costs presented to the city council in November of 2025. In 2026, the final phase of subdivision design, refinement, and platting will be in progress to plan out the schedule and costs of development at the site.

The **North Hibbing Industrial Park** is mostly filled, now, with only a small portion of acreage left to develop. Thus, the HEDA board is taking steps to get the final lots shovel ready with assistance from the IRRR. Once that work is completed, the HEDA board will be advertising the lot to potential manufacturing or other industrial developers.

# FINANCE

## TAX LEVY HISTORY

including  
Airport  
& HRA  
levies:

2026 - \$12,065,065 (5.99%)  
2025 - \$11,383,606 (3.87%)  
2024 - \$10,959,544 (6.82%)  
2023 - \$10,259,354

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AID:

\$9,328,083  
an increase of  
\$12,977 ( 0.14%)  
from 2024

## INVESTMENT INTEREST EARNINGS (YTD)

General Fund: \$1,456,938.85

HEDA: \$35,755.95

Local Sales Tax Fund: \$1,230.35

OPEB Fund: \$302,622.03

MIF Revolving Fund: \$56.91

**Total 2025 Investment Interest YTD - \$1,810,800.49**



## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- State of MN funded peace officer benefit reimbursement fund in the 2023 legislative session with one-time funding. Historically, City of Hibbing received around \$15K annually. For 2025, Hibbing received a reimbursement of \$258,397.92.
- Issued \$19,770,000 G.O. Temporary Sales Tax Revenue bonds in November 2025 to finance construction of our new public safety center. The city maintained a “AA” bond rating with a stable outlook for all of our existing debt. The temporary bonds were rated an “SP-1+,” the highest short-term rating.



# FINANCE

## OUTSIDE INVESTMENT AWARDED IN 2025

- Toward Zero Deaths - \$1,660.54
- Tobacco Compliance Checks - \$900
- Voter Allocation Funds - \$3,685.59
- Vehicle Theft Grant - \$1,635.40
- IRRRB Residential Demo Grants - \$34,065
- Drug Task Force - \$21,244.02
- Fire Training Reimbursement Grants - \$38,632.76
- Police POST Training Reimbursement - \$26,849.60
- Bullet Proof Vest Reimbursements- \$3,824.85
- Trunk or Treat Grant/Donation - \$1,500
- Fire Dept IV Pumps - \$2,500
- Miscellaneous Fire Donations - \$30
- Miscellaneous Police Donations - \$5,820
- K-9 Donations - \$17,530
- Animal Intake Donations - \$960
- Library Miscellaneous Grants/Donations - \$21,798.88
- ALS Crossover Grant - \$4,623
- Summer Reading Program Grants/Donations - \$5,688.43
- Yuletide Grants/Donations - \$2,000
- IRRRB Parking Study Grant - \$25,000
- IRRRB Grant Carey Lake Campground Expansion - \$250,000
- IRRRB Grant Carey Lake Campground Trails - \$95,361
- IRRRB Grant for Stage Trailer - \$6,452
- Historical Society Grant for Mineview Exhibits - \$106,000
- Mineview Exhibit Grants/Donations - \$10,500
- Transportation Assistance Aid - \$36,456
- Municipal State Maintenance Aid - \$454,102
- Municipal State Construction Aid - \$1,073,955
- MSA Bridge State Aid Funds - \$3,484
- IRRRB Grant for Public Safety Center - \$1.5 million
- IRRRB Grant for 400 Commercial Development - \$220,388
- IRRRB Grant for 400 Commercial Development/Phase 1 - \$21,312
- IRRRB Grant for Androy Ballroom Renovation - \$3,750
- Blandin Foundation for Library and Parks & Rec- \$5,000

**Total: \$4,006,708.07**

# CITY SERVICES

## City Hall

Hibbing City Hall concluded a 2-year, roughly \$2M dollar phase 1 project this past summer to preserve the building for the future. Tuckpointing and terra cotta repairs took place with intentions to seal up the building envelope and eliminate the water infiltration into the building. Phase 2 of preservation will include another approximately \$2M dollars in 2026 to address window replacement on the entire building.

## Hull Rust Mine View

2025 was a great year for visitors at the Hull Rust Mine View. This was the first year the new visitors center was open to the public and it showed in the number of people that visited the attraction. We welcomed more than 30,000 visitors to the site from May through September, with an average of 130 vehicles per day. We are currently working the Science Museum of Minnesota to put the finishing touches on the buildings. We are working to install the exhibit spaces in the building to help tell the mining, cultural and geological history of the area. The exhibits are currently in fabrication and are scheduled for installation and ready for opening day 2026.



## Hibbing Municipal Golf Course

The “Muni” had a busy year. Changes to the management of the clubhouse and the grounds crew helped the Muni see the number of rounds played increase over recent years. Once again, the course topped the 12,000 rounds played mark, which is a number the course hasn’t seen since 2020. With the addition of cart rentals, increased offerings in the clubhouse and improved course conditions, all lead to an increase in play. The course held host to multiple tournaments and again facilitated the Women’s, Men’s, Senior and Junior league play.

## Carey Lake Campground

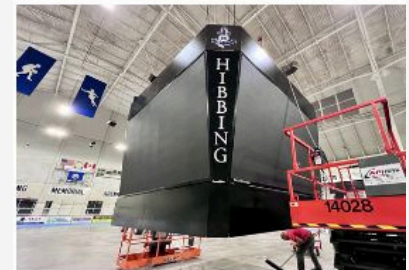
Carey Lake Recreation Area got a facelift this summer. The entire park road was repaved and sections of the road were rebuilt. This was a much-needed improvement from the broken pavement and potholes that had been there for many years. Although the city could not move forward with full campground construction this summer, work continued on a trail head and campground entrance that will greatly enhance the park going forward. Work around the campground entrance, trail head, septic and well head were all completed. We will continue to seek outside funding and grants to bring this project to fruition with the construction of a full campground in the future.



# PARKS & RECREATION

## Hibbing Parks – Summer Season Highlights

- Crews completed major maintenance on our athletic fields, including edging the infields and adding agri-lime to improve both playability and drainage.
- Staff also repaired fencing and backstops and completed a wide range of irrigation system upgrades at both Vic Power and Bennett Park — replacing sprinkler heads and troubleshooting issues to keep fields green and ready for play.
- At Bennett Park, the dugouts received a fresh coat of paint for a cleaner, more welcoming look.
- Across the park system, old picnic tables and benches were repaired or replaced, enhancing comfort in our most popular gathering spots.
- Downtown Hibbing bloomed all summer long thanks to the daily watering and care of more than 150 flower baskets.
- Our playgrounds also saw significant attention this year.
- Staff inspected equipment, replaced broken parts, and ensured all play areas remained safe and inviting for families.
- Hazard trees were removed throughout the parks, and new plantings were added to keep our green spaces healthy and vibrant.
- Carey Lake was a major focus this summer. Workers improved the beach area, making the shoreline cleaner, more attractive, and better suited for swimming.
- The team also performed extensive trimming and upkeep along the Carey Lake trail systems, keeping paths clear and enjoyable for walkers, runners, cyclists, and this upcoming ski season.



**New digital scoreboard for the Memorial Arena after 30+ years.**

## Hibbing Recreation – Summer Season Highlights

2025 not only included all our previous favorite Parks & Rec activities, it also saw the launch of new programs as well. Some of the most notable returning events were the Easter Egg Hunt, Hibbing on Howard and the First Avenue Mile.

New this year was Camp Hurrah, which returned to Carey Lake after a hiatus. Thanks to some grant funding we were able to bring it back in a new and fresh way. Enrollment was at max capacity, and the kids enjoyed fishing, kayaking, nature crafts, and making lunch over a campfire. Countless life-long memories were made!

The Recreation Guide was once again sent to all Hibbing addresses to highlight all the amazing programs that are available in Hibbing. This magazine was an inclusive list of activities, leagues, sports, and events that were offered by both public and private groups in Hibbing.

# BUILDING & HOUSING

## 2025 Annual Summary Report (11-23-24 thru 11-18-25)

Type of Permit	# of permits	Valuation
New Single-Family Dwelling	8	\$1,994,997.00
New Multi-Family Dwelling	0	\$0.00
New Commercial/Industrial/Institutional	6	\$28,506,357.00
Commercial Addition/Alteration	46	\$18,674,185.00
Residential Addition/Alteration/Accessory	253	\$3,942,374.00
<b>Total Building Permits</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>\$53,117,913.00</b>

## Mechanical Permits Fee Revenue

Commercial Mechanical Permits	10	\$8,089.13
Residential Mechanical Permits	136	\$2,720.00
<b>Total Mechanical Permit Revenue</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>\$10,809.13</b>

## Sewer Inspection Permits Revenue

Sewer Inspection Permits	137	\$4,110.00
<b>Total Sewer Inspection Permit Revenue</b>		<b>\$4,110.00</b>





# BUILDING & HOUSING

## Building Permits Fee Revenue

Permit Fees	313	\$225,415.37
Plan Review Fees	62	\$128,828.11
<b>Total Building Permit Fee Revenue</b>		<b>\$354,243.48</b>

## Development Fee Revenue

Sign Permit Fees	14	\$1,438.34
Zoning Permit Fees	70	\$1,510.00
<b>Total Development Fee Revenue</b>		<b>\$2,948.34</b>

## IRRRB Residential Redevelopment Grant Demolitions

<b>Residential Structures Demolished in 2025</b>	<b>7</b>
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## Planning Commission and Board of Adjustments & Appeals

Conditional Use & Interim Use Permit Requests	6	\$1,590.00
Variance Requests	5	\$925.00
Zoning Amendments	4	\$1,355.00
Plat Exemptions & Miscellaneous Public Hearings	10	\$1,295.00
<b>Total Public Hearings Revenue</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>\$5,165.00</b>



# LIBRARY

## By the numbers ...

**38,428**

Circulation Total  
January-October

**LIBRARY PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS**

In Person: 7,113

Passive Programs: 6,067

## MILESTONES

This past year, the Hibbing Public Library was busy increasing our programs – whether they be sponsored by the Library or Community members. Our participation numbers went up from 4,818 in 2024 to 7,113 in 2025.

Besides our yearly Summer and Winter Reading Programs, other highlights include: a Harry Potter event hosted by community members, our various Bingo nights, Yoga and Zumba classes, Spicy Book Club, Flower Pot Painting Class, and our weekly Popcorn Fridays.

Another important update: after a 10-year hiatus, the Library Board of Trustees got up and running in 2025.



## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2026, we will be installing ADA bathrooms on the main floor of the library. We also hope to build a Technology Hub on the main floor. This Hub will have new and innovative technology that we are excited to explore and learn about. 2026 is looking bright!



# POLICE

## STATISTICS

Through 11/11/25

**19,371**

Calls for Service

**44**

DWI Arrests

**161**

Assaults

**192**

Accidents

## EVENT PARTICIPATION

National Night Out  
Youth Police Academy  
Special Olympics Torch Run  
Special Olympics Polar Plunge  
Salvation Army Bell Ringing  
Hibbing on Howard  
Community Steps  
Operation K9  
Socks and Sirens  
Kids, Cops & Cars  
Halloween Safe Walk  
Blue Mass  
Boys & Girls Club Softball Game



**Pink Patch Project:  
“Putting the Cuffs on Cancer”**

## 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

We hosted the Iron Range Polar Plunge at Carey Lake in March in support of Special Olympics Minnesota, raising more than \$30,000. We will host it again on March 21, 2026!

This year we welcomed 4 new officers to our department. We also had three retirements and recognized Jeff Ronchetti, Joe Casey and Steve Dolinich for their dedicated years of service to our department and community.

For breast cancer awareness in October, we partnered with Palmer’s Tavern to host a “Putting the Cuffs on Cancer” fundraiser. We served the community as guest wait staff with all tips collected to be donated to a local nonprofit. During the event we raised more than \$4,000 for Angel Fund, which supports local cancer patients. We look forward to doing it again in 2026!



In March we welcomed our newest K9 to HPD. With the help of the community, the K9 was named Gunner. K9 Gunner and Officer Haugan spent three months becoming certified in Firearms Detection and Criminal Apprehension. They officially hit the streets in July.

### Community Clean-Up

#### 2025 totals:

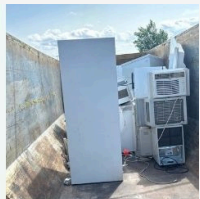
**25.67 tons of garbage**

**114 electronics**

**2.97 tons of mattresses**

**Total Weight:**

**70.71 tons or 141,420 pounds!**



# FIRE & EMS

## FIRE CHIEF & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2025 has been a year of modernization, investment, and strengthened community readiness for the Hibbing Fire Department. A major milestone includes the ordering of a new ladder truck, which will replace aging apparatus and enhance elevated rescue and firefighting capability. We broke Ground on a State-of-the-Art Joint Public Safety Facility which will greatly enhance our response capabilities for Police, Fire and EMS.

**-FIRE DIVISION-**

## Training

The department has completed over **550 hours of training** so far in 2025, ensuring operational readiness and continual skills development.

## Rope Rescue Technician Refresher:

- Delivered by CMC
- 16-hour high- and low-angle refresher
- Reinforced skills in vertical rescue and technical rope operations

## Howard Street Pre-Demolition Training Site

Before demolition, the Howard Street buildings provided a rare and invaluable training opportunity. Hibbing Fire organized a regional multi-department training event. Participating departments included Chisholm Fire, Duluth Fire, Cherry Fire, Keewatin Fire and Greenway Fire. Courses offered included

- Building Construction Walkthrough
- Hose Advancement and Overhaul
- Search and Rescue with Vertical Ventilation

This training provided a realistic, hands-on experience that is not commonly possible without access to such structures.

**-FIRE MARSHAL-**

- Estimated Fire Losses: \$1,000,000
- Continued emphasis on Fire Prevention Education, including:
  - School tours
  - A new fire safety inflatable walk-through house for kindergarten and 1st-grade students

## RESPONSE VOLUME

448

## Total Fire Calls for Service

34

## Structure Fires

38

### Mutual Aid Received



# FIRE & EMS

## Community Engagement: Students of the Month Lunch Program

- Each month, Hibbing Fire crews have lunch with honored students from Washington and Greenhaven Elementary Schools, recognizing excellence and reinforcing positive community relationships.

## –EMS DIVISION–

### Equipment & Operational Improvements

- Delivery of a new ambulance
- Purchase of eight new IV pumps
- Transition to a new ambulance billing vendor: ECP Services

### Community Outreach & Education

- CPR/BLS classes for the public and city employees
- Participation in the Youth Police Academy (led by Hibbing PD)
- Contribution to SCRUBS Camp, helping introduce high school students to healthcare careers

### Mutual Aid & Intercepts

Provided 107 ALS mutual aid responses to surrounding services over the year.

### CALL STATISTICS 10/31/24 – 10/31/25

**3,324**

Total EMS Calls

**2,448**

Total 911 EMS Calls

**876**

Medical Transfers  
from local hospital

**15**

Mutual Aid Received

## –EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT–

Substantial progress in strengthening community preparedness occurred in 2025.

### Emergency Management Plan Update & Implementation

- The city hired Paramount Planning to completely update the decades-old Emergency Management Plan.
- The new plan will align Hibbing with St. Louis County and State of Minnesota emergency management frameworks.

### Outdoor Warning Siren Upgrades

- Nine new outdoor warning sirens were installed citywide over the past year.
- All units are fully operational and significantly improve public safety, weather alerting, and disaster readiness.



# FIRE & EMS

## – FIRE EXPLORERS – POST #4232 –

Established in 2022, the Fire & EMS Explorer Program continues to grow and support the next generation of first responders.

- Current Membership: 9
- The program provides hands-on training, mentorship, and exposure to fire and EMS careers.
- Several former members have already entered careers in firefighting, EMS, and other healthcare professions.



## – LOOKING AHEAD –

2025 has been a year of meaningful progress, critical upgrades, and expanded training opportunities for the Hibbing Fire Department. With major investments—including a new ladder truck, updated emergency management planning, and expanded EMS capabilities—the department is well-positioned to continue providing valuable service to the community in the coming years.





# ENGINEERING

## STREET PAVING

Rehabilitated 5.77 miles of City Streets on Old Hwy 169, Elynwood Drive, Leetonia, Brooklyn, Graysher neighborhood and Sargent Addition.

- Project funding included \$1,400,429.15 in City Funds

## STREET CONSTRUCTION – STATE AID

Reconstructed 23rd Street from 1st Avenue to 9th Avenue East. Reconstruction included sidewalk, curb & gutter, watermain, street lights, steam and a new bituminous surface.

- Project funding included:
  - \$1,155,561.17 Municipal State Aid Funds
  - \$1,559,533.68 Hibbing Public Utilities



## CITY SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION

Reconstructed 620 feet of City sidewalk and 340 feet of curb and gutter for the petition-based, residential sidewalk program.

- Total Project cost was \$73,900.75:
  - City \$65,166.38
  - Residents \$8,734.37

## CHIP SEALING

We partnered with St. Louis County for a chip sealing project. We performed chip sealing on 12.21 miles of city and state aid streets.

- Total project cost was \$539,013.07:
  - City \$109,325.94
  - State Aid \$429,687.13

## ALLEY REHABILITATION

Rehabilitated 13 alleys between 1st Avenue and 4th Avenue West, from 31st Street to 39th Street. Project included removing 12” of existing material and replacing with 8” of class 5 and new 4” bituminous mat.

- Total project cost was \$393,543.75

# WASTE COLLECTIONS

## SANITARY SEWER LINING

Rehabilitated 22,199 feet of sanitary sewer mains with an in-place sanitary sewer liner. Total Project Cost of \$1,186,355

- We have rehabilitated 132,512 feet of sanitary sewer main since 2013.

## LIFT STATIONS

- Rehabilitated the Kitzville Lift Station. Total cost was \$135,014
- Added a backup generator to the Lindquist Road lift station. Total cost was \$26,804.00
- Replaced check valves and gate valves at the South Hughes Road lift station. Total cost was \$25,464

# WASTE WATER TREATMENT

**Gallons of water treated: 687,244,000**



## 2025 Highlights:

- Upgraded pumphouse to new LED lighting and replace all ductwork and fans
- Lined the 2nd and 3rd stage trickling filters (\$152,000)
- Rebuilt lift pump number 8
- Replaced mud well pump and flow meter
- Rebuilt filter building backwash pump
- Replaced all chlorine and sulfur dioxide equipment



# PUBLIC WORKS

- Installed 20 driveway and road cross culverts
- Repaired 23 storm catch basins and installed new pipes
- Cleaned 5 blighted properties
- Demolished 6 residential condemned houses and garages
- Removed 45 diseased/rotted/damaged trees along city boulevards (as identified in tree study)
- Maintained 227 miles of bituminous roads with pothole patching and snow removal
- Maintained 98 miles of gravel roads with grading and snow removal
- Maintained 27 miles of alleys with pothole patching and snow removal
- Maintained 325 miles of grass cutting with tractor/mower

## SANITATION

- Residential:
  - hauled 5,136 tons of trash and 287 tons of recyclables to the transfer site
- Commercial:
  - hauled 4,896 tons of trash and 68 tons of recyclables to the transfer site

## RECYCLE CENTER

Collaboration with Hibbing Public Utilities to use tub grinder to grind the brush pile. HPU will use as biomass at their plant.

## CEMETERY

- Maintained all lots by mowing and trimming.
- Repaired graves with black dirt and seed.
- Snow removal as needed on roads.
- Repaired black top on roads as needed.
- Repaired water lines that needed repair.



# FLEET MANAGEMENT

It's been an extremely busy year!

- We have upgraded much of our old equipment to ensure we are providing high-quality services. New equipment secured includes a:
  - WA-380 Loader
  - Sanitation truck (which will assist in increasing efficiency and lowering operational costs)
  - Street sweeper
- We went live with new asset software to improve our cost savings and replacement of vehicles and equipment.
- We sold \$125,000 in surplus equipment in 2025 and worked hard to replace our old equipment.



New sanitation truck

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- HEDA's Economic Development Revolving Loan fund has a cash balance of \$1,320,672.34. Current outstanding loan commitments total \$433,650.22 leaving a balance to lend of \$887,022.12. The Board approved 4 new loans from this fund in 2025 totaling \$498,465.28. YTD interest received on EDA loans is \$62,968. HEDA currently has 48 notes receivable totaling \$2,237,650.61 of which \$126,615.67 are for COVID loans (the COVID loan fund was created with a \$400K investment from the IRRRB with a match from the city). HEDA had two loans written off at the end of 2024 (same borrower) due to bankruptcy, has one loan with a current judgement being collected on through RCB, and has two more pending judgements from the court.
- HEDA's Storefront Renovation Fund has a cash balance of \$217,252.55. There are no outstanding commitments at this time in this fund. One loan is currently being amortized in this fund (\$19,689.27), and it will be paid off in full in 2027. The fund received interest in 2025 of \$1,223.
- The deferred loan program - created with \$250,000 EDA funds and \$250,000 IRRRB funds - has now been lent out in full for downtown renovations. Eleven local businesses received loan funds totaling \$515,060.93 that will be forgivable after 5 years if utilities and taxes are paid, and the business meets certain job requirements.



# HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2025, the City of Hibbing continued to advance its commitment to operational excellence, employee well-being, and organizational growth. Efforts centered on improving efficiency, updating internal processes, and strengthening consistency across all departments.

Human Resources led several initiatives to modernize systems, enhance compliance, and support effective leadership and communication. Updated policies, training, and employee development efforts contributed to a more streamlined and accountable organization.

Workplace safety remained a key focus, with renewed attention to proactive prevention, training, and continuous improvement. These initiatives reinforced a culture of safety and care throughout the organization.

As the City looks ahead, it remains dedicated to sustaining progress, investing in employee development, and fostering a strong, high-performing organization that continues to serve the community effectively.

Highlights/Statistics	
Employees	141
Employee Turnover Rate	5%
Total Employment Applications Received	281
Total # of Postings	49
Average number of applicants per posting	8
New Hires Onboarded	11
Summer student & seasonal hires	45
Internal promotions	8

## BUILDING AN AGE-FRIENDLY FUTURE

City leaders committed to joining the AARP Age-Friendly Network — a program designed to make communities more livable for residents of all ages, especially older adults. This was a big step toward a healthier, stronger and more resilient Hibbing — today and for generations to come.

### Why Hibbing joined the network:

- Prepares our community for a growing older population
- Improves quality of life for everyone
- Boosts civic engagement & social connections
- Attracts partnerships & support
- Shows our commitment to future planning & resilience



Pictured at the Aug. 20 council meeting are members of the local committee, City Council and AARP representatives who are leading this effort (from left): Miriam Kero, Councilor Jennifer Hoffman-Saccoman, Councilor John Schweiberger, Mayor Pete Hyduke, Jay Haapala of AARP Minnesota, Georgia Lane of the Area Agency on Aging, Amy Brownell, Councilor James Bayliss, Ann Bussey & Councilor Justin Fosso.





# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Existing Property Improvement Grant Award:

The HRA of Hibbing was selected for funding from Minnesota Housing Finance Agency's Publicly Owned Housing Program for a storm sewer improvements, elevator improvements and full window replacement at Seventh Avenue Apartments. The recommended funding amount from MHFA for this project is \$1,805,727. This will significantly reduce the flooding that occurs at this apartment complex when we experience excessive rain. To date the HRA of Hibbing has received almost \$4 million in POHP money from MHFA for our apartment building improvements.



Housing & Redevelopment  
Authority of Hibbing

## Improving our Housing for families:

In December 2024, the HRA in collaboration with development partner Center City Housing Corp. secured funding through Minnesota Housing Finance's Super RFP to launch a new 52-unit housing development. This project is a major step forward in replacing outdated housing stock with modern, energy-efficient units. The rent subsidy from Greenhaven Apartments will be transferred to the new building, ensuring long-term affordability and a stable operating model. Groundbreaking is anticipated for spring 2026.

We also submitted an application to Minnesota Housing in July 2025 for the second and final phase of the Greenhaven Redevelopment. If funded, the remaining 48 Greenhaven units will be moved into a second new building, Missabe Manor, completing the full 100-unit replacement plan. MHFA will announce selected developments in December 2025, and we are currently one of the finalists for award.

Once both phases are funded and constructed, the existing Greenhaven Apartments will be decommissioned and demolished. This will remove obsolete structures, eliminate significant maintenance burdens, and replace them with modern, efficient housing that better serves residents and the broader community.

This redevelopment reflects our continued commitment to raising housing quality and ensuring access to safe, affordable homes for the people we serve.



Cobb Cook Place

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



## Celebrating 130 years of Service

### Core Principles

*Mission Statement: Hibbing Public Utilities' mission is to serve the Hibbing community with the most reliable utility service at the most affordable rates, while catalyzing the regional economic transition with sustainable, renewable energy.*

### Water Works

HPU completed another year of its Water Main Capital Improvement plan. These projects secure a safer and more reliable water system. Here are some highlights of our 2025 work:

- **3** projects completed
- **19,402 feet** of water main replaced
- **11** lead service lines replaced
- **\$10.3 million** total investment
- **\$5.76 million** in grant funding

Looking forward to 2026, HPU has re-evaluated projects to prioritize the identification and removal of lead from Hibbing's Water System.

### Electrical Upgrades

2025 marks one of the most productive years for Hibbing's electrical system in decades. Here are some highlights from our work:

- **5 miles** of Line Rebuilding
- Completion of **2 state-of-the-art substations**
- **11 miles** of Vegetation Management
- Project development for **3 miles** of transmission line & **2 new grid connections**

These projects are set to continue into 2026 as HPU continues investments into Hibbing's electrical infrastructure.



The **Hibbing Historical Society** served more than 18,000 patrons through physical visits to the museum and interactions online, in print and via phone or email. Our online collections, including the Aubin Photography Studios collection, gathered over 130,000 views. We produced 4 quarterly newsletters, including a Special Edition featuring the history of the Androy Hotel. We also distributed over 1,500 copies of the Hibbing Historical Walking Tour brochure to visitors and tourist sites in the area.

The Society hosted several community events this year and partnered with the City of Hibbing throughout the year for events like the Hibbing Birthday Party and this year's new collaboration with Parks & Recreation to hold a Mystery at the Museum event.

New museum merchandise was created this year, including clothing, stickers and magnets with our new logo. We coordinated with designers for the new Mine View exhibits to help create content and produce images and artifacts to fill the beautiful buildings next Spring. We added new permanent exhibits to our own space. Our biggest project this year was raising \$90,000 through the generosity of community members and grant programs to begin digitizing our Hibbing and Chisholm newspapers.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

2025 at Range Regional Airport was a year marked by growth, resilience, and steady advancement of our long-term strategic goals. The Airport estimates a 12% increase in airline enplanements, continuing a pattern of year-over-year growth. Commercial Airline service is provided by Delta Connections with daily passenger jet service to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) as well as seasonal charter flights provided by Sun Country Airlines to Laughlin, NV. This continued growth in air travel reflects the confidence of our airline partners, travelers and community stakeholders. Our focus remains on delivering safe, efficient and sustainable services.



The Airport has 50+ based aircraft and a network of aviation companies who provide air medical transport, wildland aerial firefighting, private charter on demand services, flight instruction, aircraft maintenance and painting, as well as recreation and private flying. Auto rental is located in the passenger terminal with services provided by Enterprise and ACAR car rental companies.

Key capital improvement investments this year include a T-hangar taxilane rehabilitation, perimeter fence and security improvements, and preventative maintenance projects to the aircraft parking apron, primary runway, and supporting taxiway surfaces.

CHAA Executive Director Barrett Ziemer was appointed to the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) as one of their Intermediate Airport Systems Representatives. He will be working alongside fellow commissioners, community stakeholders, and industry leaders to support innovation, sustainability and growth in our aviation system.



2025 has been an active, productive year. In late May, the Chamber welcomed an entirely new staff, including Chamber President Amy Mandt. Later in the year, the office moved to 318 E. Howard St.

During the Annual Board Retreat in September, directors discussed strengthening the Chamber's impact within the community. The group identified priority areas needing additional focus and began developing strategies to implement new initiatives to further energize the Chamber's mission of supporting a thriving business environment.

The Hibbing High School Entrepreneurship Club was launched using grant funding through Main Street America's Equitable Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Program. Since September, the E-Club has held monthly meetings during which students have learned directly from local business owners about the fundamentals of starting and operating a business, while also engaging with structured entrepreneurial curriculum. The grant also led to a partnership with the SBDC to provide AI and technical support for selected businesses.

The annual Spirit of Unity Parade, featuring the relighting of the Androy Hotel sign, and our annual Funspiel curling event also proved successful.

Looking ahead, Chamber staff are preparing for the upcoming Leadership Program beginning in January and the Annual Dinner on Jan. 30. Staff are proud of the progress made in 2025 and are eager to continue advancing initiatives that support Hibbing's long-term growth and prosperity. 21.



# Contact us



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This report contains 2025 year-to-date (YTD) data and statistics may vary by department.