



City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

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Legislative File No: 2026-0303

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Erin McKay Mims, Youth Council Adult Advisor
DATE: July 13, 2026
SUBJECT: Appointment of 2026/2027 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC)

City Council at its Regular Meeting of March 16, 2005 adopted Resolution RES0080-2005 establishing the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) to promote youth involvement in local government through active participation and the mutual exchange of ideas and experiences. The RHGYC Bylaws have been amended twice to increase membership through the established application and appointment process. On June 21, 2021 the composition was expanded from 13 to 15 members and on June 21, 2025 it was further increased to 17 members. The member composition will consist of at least (2) representatives from each City Council District and (9) at-large representatives.

This year we are very pleased to mention that we received fifty-two (52) applications that met the minimum qualifications to be considered. Of the fifty-two (52) applications received nine (9) applications were from the current Youth Council members requesting to be reappointed to an additional term on the council.

The established application/appointment process included the following:

- Submission of application packet by interested students which included the following:
 - Application
 - Essay Questions
 - Two Letters of Recommendation
- Interviews by the interview team consisting of Youth Council Adult Advisor Erin McKay Mims, City Council Liason Marvie Neubauer and Youth Council Representatives: Saachi Dahanukar, Janelle Hayes, Sasha Joshi, and Siddh Sheth.

Forty-one (41) students participated in the interview process. The interview team evaluated the candidates on application quality, adult references, interview and representation.

As in the past years, we continue to be very pleased with the large number of students interested in serving on the RHGYC; nonetheless, it does make the final selection process difficult. Each applicant was extremely bright and pleasant, and could bring something different and unique to the group. In the end however, the Interview Team took into account the composition of the RHGYC district representation, school representation and the number in each graduating year, and we are recommending to Council that they appoint seventeen students to the youth council again this year.

The terms of office will be for one (1) year coinciding with the school calendar year beginning on September 1, 2026 and expiring on August 31, 2027.

If all seventeen students are appointed, the representation would be as follows:

- City Council Districts
 - District 1 - Five (5) Students
 - 3 returning students
 - 2 new students
 - District 2 - Five (5) Students
 - 2 returning students
 - 3 new students
 - District 3 - Three (3) Students
 - 1 returning student
 - 2 new students
 - District 4 - Four (4) Students
 - 3 returning students
 - 1 new student
- Schools
 - Adams – Five (5) Representatives
 - Rochester - Three (3) Representatives
 - Stoney Creek – Five (5) Representatives
 - International Academy – Three (3) Representatives
 - Marion High School – One (1) Representative
- School Grades
 - Ninth Grade -Two (2) Students
 - Tenth Grade – Five (5) Students
 - Eleventh Grade – Four (4) Students
 - Twelfth Grade - Six (6) Students

Therefore, City Council is requested to appoint the following students to a one-year term on the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) 2026/2027.

Name	High School	Council District
Rosell Arkan	Stoney Creek High School	2
Oliver Blakeley	Rochester High School	2
Saachi Dahanukar	Adams High School	1
Brennan Deel	Stoney Creek High School	4
Jackson Deel	Stoney Creek High School	4
Kishyo Giri	Stoney Creek High School	4
Sasha Joshi	Adams High School	1
Anika Kadandale	Adams High School	1
Jueon Kim	Adams High School	2
Saisha Patnaik	Rochester High School	4

Carson Pavloff	International Academy	3
Noorah Qadri	Rochester High School	1
Dev Shah	International Academy	3
Divya Shah	International Academy	3
Divya Sheth	Stoney Creek High School	2
Sophia Tomas	Marion High School	2
Christina Wang	Adams High School	1

The students and their parents have been invited to the August 10, 2026 City Council Meeting for the “Swearing-in Ceremony.”

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
City Clerk		

Contract Reviewed by City Attorney Yes N/A