



City of Isanti, Minnesota

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CITY ORDINANCE

You are hereby notified that the following Proposed Ordinance will be considered by the City Council of the City of Isanti, MN at the following meeting:

City Council Meeting: September 15, 2026

DATE POSTED: August 25, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. XXX

**AN INTERIM ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING STUDIES AND IMPOSING A
MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF ISANTI,
MINNESOTA**

The City Council of the City of Isanti does ordain as follows:

ARTICLE I. Purpose and Intent:

- (a) The City Council of the City of Isanti (“City”) recognizes that data centers have become increasingly prevalent due to growing demand for cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data storage, and related technologies. The city is aware data centers may create significant impacts on electrical infrastructure, water resources, land use patterns, noise levels, emergency services, transportation systems, and environmental sustainability.
- (b) The City's existing zoning and development regulations may not adequately address the unique impacts associated with large-scale data center facilities. It is in the best interests of the public to place a City-wide moratorium on Data Centers to provide City staff and consultants, if so hired, with a meaningful opportunity to study whether and how the city should amend its official controls to effectively regulate Data Centers moving forward.
- (c) The City Council finds that allowing applications for new data centers to proceed during such study period could result in development that is inconsistent with future regulations intended to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and,
- (d) The City is authorized to protect the public health, safety, and welfare through the exercise of its zoning, land use, and police powers; and Minnesota Statutes Section 462.355 allows the City to adopt a temporary moratorium to allow the City gather technical information, review infrastructure capacity, and evaluate whether amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, utility regulations, and development standards are necessary.

ARTICLE II. Moratorium Established. A temporary moratorium is hereby imposed on the acceptance, processing, review, approval, issuance, or granting of any application, permit, license, rezoning request, conditional use permit, site plan approval, subdivision approval, building permit, or other land use entitlement for the construction, expansion, or establishment of any new data center facility within the City. For purposes of this Ordinance, a "Data Center" shall mean a facility or group of facilities used primarily to house computer systems and associated components, such as telecommunication and storage systems that are used for the storage, management, processing, transmission, or distribution of digital data through computer servers, networking equipment, systems, services, appliances, and/or other associated components related to digital data operations. A Data Center may also include accessory and appurtenant facilities, such as offices, air handlers, power generators, water cooling systems and water storage facilities, utility substations, and other associated infrastructure necessary to support sustained digital data operations.

ARTICLE III. Duration. The moratorium established by this Ordinance shall remain in effect for a period of twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Ordinance unless repealed or modified by action of the City Council.

ARTICLE IV. Scope. This moratorium shall apply to all new data center developments and any expansion of an existing data center that would increase building area, electrical demand, water consumption, or operational capacity

ARTICLE V. Purpose of Study. During the moratorium period, City staff shall evaluate and make recommendations regarding appropriate zoning districts for data center development, electrical infrastructure capacity and utility impacts, water usage and conservation requirements; and any other matters deemed relevant by the City Council.

ARTICLE VI. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and publication and shall remain in effect as provided herein.

Adopted by the Isanti City Council this _____ day of _____ 2026.

Attest:

Mayor Luke Merrill

Jaden Strand
City Clerk/ Deputy HR Director

Posting Date: August 25, 2026
City Council Reading Date: September 15, 2026
Publication Date:
Effective Date: