

**Council Member Cam Gordon's  
Report to PPERRIA, 6-26-06**

**Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:  
Pratt School, Tuesday July 11, 9:30-11am**

**Items:**

- I. Community Engagement Forum 7-25-06
- II. Youth Violence Prevention Grants
- III. Report on Somali Youth Problems
- IV. District Council Collaborative
- V. Elected Official use of Blogs
- VI. Onestop
- VII. Opening on Ethical Practices Board
- VIII. CRA Work Group
- IX. Pratt Ice Cream Social wrap-up

- I. As part of my ongoing series of roundtable discussions on issues important to the Second Ward, I will be hosting a forum on community engagement. It will be held on **Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at Brackett Park, 2728 39th Ave S.** In the months ahead the City Council will consider ways to improve citizen participation. At the same time, many neighborhood organizations are struggling to survive and the future of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program is in question. We will be discussing these and other important questions:
  - **How can we involve more people in City decisions?**
  - **How can the City better support neighborhood organizations in their important work?**
  - **How will citizen participation efforts and neighborhood groups be funded in the future?**
  - **How can neighborhoods better support the work of City Hall?**
  - **How can we all be more inclusive of those who too often go underrepresented in our meetings?**
- II. The Youth Violence Prevention Grants I supported have gone out to local nonprofit organizations. It is my hope that these grants will have an impact on reducing violent crime in Southeast Minneapolis over this summer and next.
- III. The Department of Civil Rights has released a "Report on Somali Youth Issues," which explores some of the challenges facing Somali youth and makes recommendations for positive steps the larger community can take to help. The report will be available online at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/civil-rights/>, and in print/electronic form and in Somali in a few weeks.

- IV.** PPERRIA has been invited to join the Central Corridor District Councils Collaborative, a coalition of neighborhood groups along the Central Corridor transit line. The Collaborative is seeking one representative from PPERRIA. Call Andy Driscoll at 651.249.6877 or email him at [andy@districcouncilscollaborative.org](mailto:andy@districcouncilscollaborative.org) for more information, or visit [www.districtcouncilscollaborative.org](http://www.districtcouncilscollaborative.org).
- V.** The Council passed my resolution allowing Elected Officials to use blogs (as I have been doing since March) last cycle.
- VI.** I am part of an effort to improve the city's OneStop program to better serve businesses and development projects. The City Coordinator has been directed to prepare a plan outline to consolidate the City's development review operations within one clear line of jurisdiction and accountability, appoint a Minneapolis One Stop Ombudsperson, evaluate the merits of an organizational structure in which the Development Review Office is responsible for day to day operational control, and report back to the Council June 30, 2006, and on a quarterly basis thereafter to address the City's progress in achieving the directives.
- VII.** There are openings on the Minneapolis Ethical Practices Board, whose purpose is "to promote high ethical standards and conduct, and to foster a healthy ethical culture throughout Minneapolis city government." For more information, look here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open> or call Assistant City Attorney Susan Trammell at 673-3230.
- VIII.** There is an opportunity for the public to comment on the work of the Civilian Police Review Authority work group this **Thursday, June 29, at 8am at City Hall**. The work group has made a number of recommendations, but there are still many important issues on the table. The City will also be soliciting comments at later public meetings (including at least one in the evening) and by some written method.
- IX.** Congratulations on a tremendously successful Ice Cream Social. I'm proud that my office was able to help facilitate Bridget's great idea of auctioning off a night on the Tower. I'm looking forward to giving a tour of City Hall to the neighbor who won that auction item, when I hear from her/him.