

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Cedar Riverside, 8-16-06

Cam's next Cedar Riverside Office Hours:
Tuesday, September 5, 9:30-11:00am
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave

Items:

- I. Second Ward Survey
- II. Central Corridor Roundtable Discussion
- III. Cedar Riverside Cameras
- IV. Mayor's Recommended Budget
- V. CRA Work Group
- VI. Tam Tam's public hearing
- VII. Gophers Stadium Update
- VIII. LCDA grant application
- IX. Sale of City-Owned Parking Ramps
- X. The Future of Our Parks
- XI. Department of Peace
- XII. WiFi update
- XIII. IRV on ballot
- XIV. Hennepin County Hazardous Waste Pickup

- I. Please take a moment to fill out a short survey. I want to learn more about your priorities, concerns and interests. You can fill it out on the Ward 2 website:
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward2/>. Your ideas are very important to me.
- II. As part of my ongoing series of roundtable discussions on issues important to the Second Ward, I will be hosting a forum on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line on Thursday, September 21st, 7-9pm at Saint Francis Cabrini Church, 1500 Franklin Ave SE (2 blocks east of the River), in Garvey Hall.
- III. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of neighborhood activists, I was able to convince my colleagues to support expanding the SafeZone and fund public safety cameras for the Cedar Riverside neighborhood. We must keep in mind that some Cedar Riverside neighbors are concerned about these cameras, and be sensitive to those concerns as the cameras are installed and utilized.
- IV. The Mayor's recommended 2007 City budget has been released and is available online:
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/city-budget/2007recommended/>. One highlight: the Mayor has called for the City to add 43 police officers to the Department. The Council will review and amend this recommended budget through November, and adopt the final 2007 budget in December. A more thorough overview of this process is available here:
<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/city-budget/annual-budget-process.asp>.

- V. The Civilian Police Review Authority work group that I helped form will hold a public hearing about our recommendations to the Council on **Wednesday, August 30, 7 pm at the Brian Coyle Center**. For more information contact Natalie Collins, 612-673-3301, natalie.collins@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.
- VI. There will be a public hearing on Tam Tam's African Restaurant's (605 Cedar Ave) request for a Class E liquor license at the PS&RS Committee meeting on Wednesday, August 23, in the City Council Chambers, room 317 of City Hall. The Class E License permits radio, television, jukebox, karaoke, and recorded music. There will be no live entertainment or patron dancing.
- VII. Pavement and utility work is continuing on the East Bank for the new Gopher Stadium. Read more about the construction at: <http://www1.umn.edu/stadium/construction.html>.
- VIII. As you may recall from a past Ward 2 update, Fine Associates' Livable Communities Demonstration Account grant application has been passed to the Met Council with the support of the City Council. I strongly support these much-needed improvements to 15th Avenue S and of the segments of 4th and 6th Streets S, and encourage WBCC to send a letter of support to the Met Council.
- IX. The City of Minneapolis has nine parking ramps for sale, including the Seven Corners ramp. Selling the ramps could provide revenue and encourage redevelopment at the ramp sites. The City will consider proposals to buy one or more ramps to continue as parking or as part of a larger development. Details of the ramps up for sale are available on the RFP website <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/parkingrfp/>. Proposals are due October 19.
- X. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) invites city residents and park visitors of all ages to attend one of six town meetings to be held throughout the city in September. The town meetings kick off the Park Board's efforts to gather information from the community as the MPRB develops its long-term comprehensive plan for the park system. The closest town meeting to Cedar Riverside will be held Tuesday, Sept. 19, at Van Cleve Park Community Center, 901 15th Ave. SE and 6:30 – 8:30 pm. More information is available at: <http://www.minneapolisparcs.org>
- XI. I am proud to be to co-authoring a resolution supporting federal legislation calling for the creation of a United States Department of Peace and Non-Violence. We will likely introduce the resolution at the next City Council meeting 8/18.
- XII. The City has held two open houses on the WiFi project, and groups both inside and outside City government have released their blueprints for a Community Benefits Agreement. More information is available here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/wirelessminneapolis>
- XIII. By a 12-1 vote, the Council decided to put Instant Runoff Voting on the ballot this November. I encourage you to learn more about IRV at <http://www.fairvotemn.org> and <http://www.betterballotcampaign.org/>.
- XIV. Hennepin County's fall Household Hazardous Waste collection is coming up: August 17-19, 9am-4pm, at 2231 Garfield St NE. The next collection date is September 14-16, 9am-4pm, at 3607 E 44th St. Find out more at <http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us>.

- XV.** Imperial Parking Inc. has been managing three of the largest parking lots (A, B, and C) on the West Bank for years. The City’s Agreement with Imperial is set to end December 31, 2006 and the City Council is planning to go forward with a Request for Proposals to select a parking lot operator to take over management of the lots January 1, 2007. The RFP will be issued in July with a response date of September 1. Staff will return to Council with a recommendation in November. Proposals will outline proposers’ qualifications, identify location of parking systems office, and provide a proposed plan for operations, staffing, security, startup, marketing and management of the lots.
- XVI.** There is a seat set aside for a Cedar Riverside representative on the University Stadium Area Advisory Group. Though I realize that many of the issues the SAAG deals with are on the East Bank, I encourage WBCC to send a rep to the group by contacting Jan Morlock at (612) 624-8318 and jam@umn.edu.
- XVII.** As part of the state legislation that funded the Gopher Stadium the City, the University and the SAAG have been also been directed to draft a report more generally “on the impact of the university on the surrounding community and the relationship of the community to the university” and evaluate “the direct and indirect impacts of the university on the surrounding community, addressing issues of public safety, transportation, and housing quality, availability, and affordability.” The involvement of Cedar Riverside in the drafting of this report will be critical to its success.

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