



Council Member Betsy Hodges

# Ward 13 News

## Applications Wanted for Appointment to CLIC

The Capital Long Range Improvements Committee, also known as CLIC, is an influential group of citizens appointed to provide the Mayor and City Council Members with their recommendations on which municipal projects should be financed for the coming year, as well as a full five year plan.

CLIC meets twice a month beginning in March and ending in June to hear presentations from city departments regarding any public improvements that will require financing through city bonds, often referred to as capital improvements. This includes roads and bridges, parks, public buildings, etc. After a thorough review and ranking by the members, CLIC recommendations go to the Mayor before his annual budget is finalized. The Council also considers their comments when preparing and voting on the final budget.

CLIC members are appointed for two year terms, two from each ward plus several by the Mayor. Appointees should be prepared to attend the majority of the meetings and dedicate significant time to reading and re-

Continued on Page 2

## 2011 Property Valuation Notices Arrive

Minneapolis property owners will be receiving their 2011 property value notices in the mail beginning this week through the middle of February 2011.

The value listed on this statement is what will be used to determine your 2012 property taxes. To ensure that the City's assessments are fair and accurate, the Department of Revenue uses an industry standard tool called a "sales ratio study" to measure the accuracy and quality of the City's assessment level. Sales ratios are computed by dividing the assessor's market value by the sale price of each individual property. Individual ratios are then analyzed according to property type and municipality to measure the level of assessment. The acceptable level of assessment in Minnesota is to have a sales ratio between 90 percent and 105 percent and Minneapolis consistently meets this requirement.

Continued on Page 2

February 2011



### Helpful Links

- > [Public Works](#)
- > [Report Graffiti](#)
- > [Animal Control](#)
- > [Ward 13 Website](#)
- > [Inspections](#)
- > [Council Agendas](#)
- > [Permitting/One-Stop](#)
- > [Police Department](#)
- > [Property Info](#)
- > [Minneapolis Maps](#)
- > [City Finances](#)
- > [Demographic Info](#)
- > [City Assessor](#)

### Farewell Ward Breakfast

Wednesday, April 20th  
Pearson's Restaurant  
8:00 am

## Valuation Notices continued...

If you disagree with the estimate of value as placed on the property by the Assessor's Office, there are several options available to appeal the assessment. First, call the phone number labeled **“Valuation Questions”** on your statement to discuss your concerns with a deputy assessor responsible for valuing your property. Explain why you believe your property value is less than that indicated on the statement. The deputy assessor can explain how the property value and classification were determined. If you want to appeal your property valuation to the City of Minneapolis Board of Appeal and Equalization, call (612) 673-3358 for an appointment. April 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to submit appeals to the Minnesota Tax Court.

For more information about your property assessment and the appeals process, visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/assessor/appeal-process.asp>.

---

## CLIC continued...

viewing materials before each meeting. This opportunity for direct citizen in-put in decisions about where to invest our money is an important service to the City.

I want to thank Alex Phung and Roger Ringham for their service. If you are interested in serving as a 13<sup>th</sup> Ward representative on CLIC, please contact the Clerk's office to obtain an application (612) 673-3358 by February 16<sup>th</sup>.

---

## Help us make Minneapolis better by taking the Resident Survey

Over the next few weeks, answering your phone could help us improve Minneapolis for you and other residents.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 31 and continuing through February, the City of Minneapolis will survey residents to get their perspectives about the quality of services the City provides. Approximately 1,100 residents will complete the telephone survey, which is being conducted by the National Research Center, Inc., an independent research firm. People contacted to complete the survey will be selected randomly, with the goal of reaching a diverse cross-section of Minneapolis residents.

If you are contacted to participate in the survey, please take the few minutes necessary to provide your honest opinions about how we're doing in Minneapolis. For most people, the survey will take about 20 minutes. The City of Minneapolis is eager to use the results to help create a Minneapolis with the best quality of life for everyone. Please pick up the phone and participate.

The City has conducted similar surveys in 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2008; it's part of Minneapolis' ongoing effort to improve services and involve people in their local government. More and past survey results can be found at [“Residents Survey.”](#)

---

## **Farewell Ward Breakfast - April 20th!**

The news that Pearson's Restaurant will be closing coincides with changes my office will be making to our community outreach efforts. The Ward Breakfast, which we've held at Pearson's since I took office five years ago, has been a great way to connect with folks on City issues from potholes and snow removal to property taxes and pensions. I will be sorry to see it go, but I am excited to broaden our outreach to involve more neighbors, many of whom had difficulty attending a morning meeting. We have had great success holding issue-based meetings over the last few years, including our Development Meeting, our Annual Budget Meeting, and smaller meetings like the ones we held on business issues and localized traffic and livability concerns. I look forward to holding more of these meetings in the next few years and I welcome your suggestions for topics. Please join me in April to say goodbye to the Ward Breakfast!

**Farewell Ward Breakfast  
April 20th - 8:00 am  
Pearson's Restaurant**

---

## **Council Establishes Neighborhood Funding Work Group**

On January 14th, the City Council voted to establish a Neighborhood Funding Work Group. This internal group is charged with helping to facilitate decisions that need to be made following the staff direction related to neighborhood funding in the 2011 Budget. That staff direction called for pursuing a legislative strategy aimed at consolidating neighborhood programs and limited NRP Phase II neighborhood contracting to 50% of allocations. It also directed the NCR and NCEC to work to mitigate equity issues between neighborhoods as they move forward on neighborhood funding programs and directed staff to present a plan to reduce property taxes in 2012 and 2013 by reducing the size of the TIF district that pays for neighborhood funding and debt on the Target Center.

The Work Group comprises the Council President and Vice President, myself as the chair of the Ways and Means/Budget Committee, the chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, a Mayoral representative, the City Coordinator, the Neighborhood and Community Relations Director, the Finance Director, the Communications Director and the Intergovernmental Relations Director.

I will keep you updated as the Work Group progresses. More information on the NCR and NCEC can be found here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/>.

---

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [betsy.hodges@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:betsy.hodges@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) or call 612-673-2213.