



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

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Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood, 5-23-11

**Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:
Pratt School, June 21, 9:30-11am**

Items:

- 1) 2011 Resident Survey
- 2) Temporary Parking Lots During Construction
- 3) Problems Along River
- 4) Promising Pension Reform Proposed
- 5) Road Resurfacing Continues
- 6) Minneapolis Neighborhood Environment Network
- 7) Commercial Recycling
- 8) Bicyclist Killed in Ward 2
- 9) Vikings Stadium
- 10) Tornado Response
- 11) Community Forum on the Minneapolis Disparity Study
- 12) Urban Agriculture Zoning Amendments
- 13) U of M Climate Action Plan
- 14) Youth Violence Prevention Conference
- 15) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The 2011 Resident Survey is now complete and the results are available. To view the results, please go to: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/results-oriented-minneapolis/survey2011.asp>
- 2) At the request of area residents and business owners I have identified a way to allow property owners to get "interim use permits" to create temporary parking lots to serve local business needs during the light rail construction. The permit would be approved by the City Council, through a public hearing at the Zoning & Planning Committee after a 10-day public notice period required. An interim use permit may be granted for a maximum of five years. If the City approves the permit for less than five years, it could require that the permit expire upon the Central Corridor light rail service opening to the public. Because of the temporary nature of the use, certain requirements that would normally apply to the use could be waived.
- 3) Responding to concerns from residents about illicit activities on the River Bank in and near St. Paul, I have been working with St. Paul Council Member Russ Stark and Minneapolis Park Commissioner Liz Wielinski, to explore ways to improve safety and access along the River near the border. At a meeting held in early May residents, park staff, city officials, police and others from both cities met and agreed to form a committee to investigate the feasibility of a two-city park along the river gorge, which could include a trail extension, dog park, and/or additional interpretive features.
- 4) I am very supportive of the proposed legislation that would merge the Minneapolis Police and Firefighters Relief Associations' pension programs into the statewide public employee's retirement program. The proposed agreement will provide property tax savings exceeding \$100 million over the next 20 years, including \$21 million next year if it is approved. These savings can be realized without requiring additional state funds for the merger.
- 5) Two sections of streets will be resurfaced in the Prospect Park area this spring and summer. William Street and the area in the Glendale townhomes will be milled on May 26 and new asphalt will be put on June 1. The last phase of the neighborhood road resurfacing project that was started last year, includes the River Terrace area and has not been scheduled at this point, but will be done this year.

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact Matt Bower at (612) 673-2188 or Matthew.Bower@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

If you want help translating this call – Hmong– Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2188;

Spanish – Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2188;

Somali – Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' an wac 612-673-2188.

- 6) The Minneapolis Neighborhood Environment Network (MNEN) is a project of the Minneapolis Citizens' Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC), the official body tasked with advising City Hall on the environmental impacts of its policies and operations. MNEN is a newsletter to share environmental efforts and opportunities that may affect your neighborhood. Please submit items to MinneapolisNEN@gmail.com. To receive the newsletters, please have them send an email to MinneapolisNEN@gmail.com with your name and email address to be added to the mailing list.
- 7) The Commercial Recycling ordinance that I have been working on for some time is coming before the Council's Regulatory, Energy and Environment committee on Monday, **June 6th** at 1:30pm, in room 317 of City hall, 350 S 5th St. This ordinance will require all businesses and business property owners in Minneapolis to have recycling service or provide recycling service to their tenants. I believe that the time has come for us to move past thinking that recycling is optional, and shift to a shared expectation that recycling is simply the way we deal with waste.
- 8) As you have likely heard, Audrey Hull was hit and killed on her bicycle at the corner of 15th Ave SE and 4th St SE in late April. Of the last six bicycle fatalities in Minneapolis, four were caused by large trucks making turns. My office organized a meeting between members of Public Works, the Police Department, and the Attorney's Office to begin an interagency discussion about how best to address this deadly conflict between bicyclists and trucks. I also plan to hold community meetings to get ideas from cyclists, truck drivers and others about how to prevent future deaths.
- 9) I have taken a clear position against the public funding proposal for a Vikings Stadium in Minneapolis. Given the deal reached between Ramsey County and the Vikings, it is unclear whether a Minneapolis deal will come to the Council for a vote.
- 10) North Minneapolis was struck by a devastating tornado on May 22. To help, the Minneapolis Foundation has established the Minnesota Helps - North Minneapolis Recovery Fund to assist with both short-term and long-term housing and recovery-related needs on the North Side. To make a donation visit www.GiveMN.org or send checks to The Minneapolis Foundation, 80 S. 8th St., Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN, 55402. People can also donate to the Red Cross at www.redcross.org. Please do not donate goods at this time. In the coming days, volunteers will be needed – There are crews working already in the neighborhoods, but the conditions are not yet safe enough to accommodate volunteers. The City and [Urban Homeworks](#), a local nonprofit, will be making a call to volunteers in the coming days, but at this point it is not safe to bring folks in. Corporations that want to donate goods or volunteer staff (not individual contributions): please email information including name, phone number and rough idea of quantity and type of goods and email to Marc Dronen (marc.dronen@ci.minneapolis.mn.us).
- 11) There will be a Community Forum on the Minneapolis Disparity Study - **Tuesday, June 28th** 6:00-8:00PM at the Minneapolis Central Library, Pohlad Room, RSVP by June 14, 2011, RSVPCivilRightsForum@ci.minneapolis.mn.us
- 12) I have given notice of intent to introduce all of the zoning code text amendments recommended by the recently passed Urban Agriculture Policy Plan. I expect this introduction to go through on May 27th.
- 13) The U of M has organized a presentation and discussion on the Twin Cities Campus Climate Action Plan for **Wednesday, May 25**, from 6:30-8pm at Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Ave SE. They will address questions including: what is the status of the University's air emissions today? How will we get to climate neutrality at the Twin Cities campus? What's happening with coal as a fuel for heating and cooling? I believe that this is one of the effects of the student organizing around Campuses Beyond Coal, and hope that it will lay out some real targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning away from coal.
- 14) The City has organized a Youth Violence Prevention conference on **May 27th**, from 9am-2pm at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St SE. The event will be attended by US Attorney General Eric Holder, and is the first step of a community engagement process on the Youth Violence Blueprint for Action that will be continuing this summer. I am extremely supportive of this great work, which addresses one of the most critical issues facing our communities.
- 15) There are openings on the Latino Advisory Committee, Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC), Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Vacancy, and Minneapolis Telecommunications Network (MTN). To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.