

Report to WBCC 4-19-06

Items:

- I. Central Corridor DEIS
- II. Dining Out for Life at Saint Martin's Table
- III. Violence prevention grants
- IV. Sustainability Indicators
- V. Wind Turbines
- VI. Cedars Crosswalk
- VII. Small Area Planning

- I. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Central Corridor LRT line, which will have a stop on the West Bank, is available to view. It can be viewed online at www.centralcorridor.com – click on the “links and documents” link. It can also be viewed in person at any St. Paul public library. There will be a public hearing about the DEIS on Monday, May 22nd, 6:30 PM, at the Radisson Metrodome, 615 Washington Ave SE.
- II. Please join me April 27th at St. Martin's Table, 2001 Riverside Avenue for lunch (12-1pm) and a portion of the proceeds will go to The Aliveness Project, which provides supportive services for HIV-infected Minnesotans. Then have dinner at one or more of the other Second Ward participating restaurants, (among the 103 statewide). They include the Cupcake, the Birchwood, Pizza Luce, the Clicquot Club, the Longfellow Grill, the Village Wok and the Signature Café. For more information visit: www.diningoutforlife.com.
- III. I was proud last month to lead efforts to bring City resources to youth violence prevention and support the Department of Health & Family Support's (HFS) plans for violence prevention. Under this plan, HFS will allocate up to \$500,000 of Local Public Health funds over two years for violence prevention grants to community based organizations serving youth. It is my hope that this program will have a direct impact on violence prevention this summer and next. It would be great to see some of these funds put to use in Cedar Riverside. The Request for Proposals for Youth Violence Prevention (YVP) funds posted on the City's website: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/citywork/city-coordinator/finance/purchasing/professional.html>.
- IV. In March, the Council approved amended Sustainability Indicators and targets. These offer the potential to help drive City decisions and activities in a positive direction. They are available here: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/environment/Sustainability-Initiatives.asp

- V.** I have introduced a change to the zoning code to broaden and expand the allowable uses of electricity-generating wind turbines in Minneapolis. I believe that the solution to our energy problems is not just to increase the amount of renewable energy we use, but to increase the amount we generate in the urban environment.

- VI.** My office has asked Public Works to reassess the viability of a mid-block crosswalk on 6th St S, between 630 Cedar and the Plaza. They've given us a preliminary timeline of two weeks.

- VII.** As you likely know, the West Bank is embarking on a Small Area Planning process. I will be participating in this process as it moves forward. The lead City Planner for the West Bank is Beth Elliott. I will be working closely with Beth, community members and the consultants to help make this a success. I very interested in helping ensure that this process is open, inclusive and effective. Don't hesitate to let me know how I can help.