



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Cam Gordon
City Council Member
Second Ward

350 South 5th Street - Room 301M
Minneapolis MN 55415

Office 612-673-2202
Fax 612-673-3250
Cell 612-296-0579

Email: cam.gordon@minneapolismn.gov
www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Southeast Como, 12-12-11

Cam's next Southeast Como Office Hours:
Tuesday, December 13th, 9:30-11:00am
Muddsuckers Coffee, 1500 Como Avenue SE

Items:

- 1) Minneapolis Food Council
- 2) Sound Walls on I-35W
- 3) Alcohol Spacing Requirements
- 4) 2012 Budget
- 5) New Regulatory Services Director
- 6) National Night Out – Minneapolis is #1
- 7) Single and Dual Stream Recycling Study
- 8) Bicycle Plan
- 9) "Our Town" Grants
- 10) Central Corridor "Trusted Advocate" Opportunity
- 11) Openings on City Boards and Commissions

- 1) The City Council has voted to create the first-ever Minneapolis Food Council, an advisory group to the City on issues regarding food and food policy, especially regarding local food. This group will continue the work of the Homegrown Minneapolis initiative. There is real excitement in the community for this work – ninety-eight people applied for fifteen seats! Four Second Ward residents have been chosen to be on the Food Council: **Tracy Singleton**, owner of the *Birchwood Café*; **Kurt Schreck**, Chief Operating Officer of *At Last! Gourmet Foods*; **Rhys Williams**, Buyer for Coop Partners Warehouse, a fruit and vegetable distributor; and **Sarah Nelson-Pallmeyer**, Director of FoodShare for the Greater Metropolitan Council of Churches. I thank these folks for their willingness to serve, and thank all of the many other Second Ward residents who applied for seats on this commission.
- 2) As you may have heard, MnDOT has proposed building sound walls on the east and west sides of I-35W as part of the project to add an on-ramp from 4th Street South. My office has received correspondence indicating that there is some resistance to sound walls on the west side of the freeway. I encourage SECIA to take a position on whether you support sound walls on the east side of the freeway, and communicate that position to MnDOT.
- 3) After hearing concerns from residents and neighborhood organizations in both southeast and on the West Bank, I voted against lifting the restrictions on alcohol-serving establishments within 300 feet of religious places of assembly (which included a 25% maximum on revenues from alcohol sales and prohibitions on advertising of liquor on the outside of the establishment). I voted in favor of allowing breweries to sell on-sale within 300 feet of religious places of assembly.
- 4) The 2012 budget approval process is well underway. Final approval of the budget is scheduled for **December 14th**. For more information on the Mayor's proposed 2012 budget, see www.minneapolismn.gov/mayor.
- 5) The Council has approved the Mayor's appointment of Greg Stubbs to be the new director of the Regulatory Services department.
- 6) Minneapolis has been awarded First Place for cities with a population of over 300,000 by the National Town Watch Association for 2011's National Night Out. We are consistently one of the top cities in the country for NNO, and it's due to the efforts of neighbors, block clubs, and neighborhood organizations. For more information, go here: <http://nationalnightout.org/nno/award.html>.

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at 612-673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@minneapolismn.gov

Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may call 311 or 612-673-3000. TTY users may call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

www.minneapolismn.gov

Affirmative Action Employer

- 7) The Council has received a very interesting report on single-stream and dual-stream recycling systems. You can see the powerpoint here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-081211.pdf> . The committee directed Public Works staff to return with a recommendation on a new recycling program that best balances the values of cost effectiveness, convenience for customers, and reducing total environmental impact. I look forward to this important discussion, which I hope will lead to an increase in the diversion of recyclable materials from the waste stream.
- 8) The Implementation Plan for the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan has unanimously passed the Council. This document was developed by the Bicycle Advisory Committee, in conjunction with Public Works staff, and represents a major step forward for bicycle policy in Minneapolis. The Plan includes recommendations for City actions such as:
- Pass a Complete Streets Policy
 - Advocate for Municipal State Aid (MSA) standards that allow Minneapolis to design streets that safely meet Minneapolis needs
 - Support a study on the economic impact of bicycling
 - Minimize both travel lane widths and number of travel lanes where possible and desirable
 - Develop a process by which the City shall consider the conversion of low-volume roadways to “greenway”-style bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 - Create a specific permitting process for closing streets to motorized vehicles for “Open Streets” events

Some of the recommendations in the Plan are already underway: the City is in the process of hiring a Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, and a set of bicycle parking guidelines for City worksites is in development. Additionally, the Plan’s recommendations for state legislative change have been referred to Intergovernmental Relations staff for possible inclusion in the City’s legislative agenda. To see the Plan, go here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles/projects/plan>.

- 9) Our Town, the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) fund leveraging the arts and design to create livable, sustainable neighborhoods, is currently taking applications. The deadline is March 1, 2012 for grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$150,000, for creative placemaking projects that contribute “toward the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful, and sustainable places with the arts at their core”. Key to this grant is partnership with committed governmental leadership. These partnerships must involve two primary partners: a nonprofit organization and a local government entity and one of the two primary partners must be a cultural (arts or design) organization. The City’s Arts commissioner has already begun receiving inquiries from arts organizations and is working to develop a process to bring projects forward for council review and approval. For more information, see: www.nea.gov/grants/apply/OurTown/index.html
- 10) As a part of the implementation of Central Corridor LRT, Metro Transit will be conducting a study in 2012 to investigate the best ways to integrate bus and LRT transit service in the corridor. In order to do this, strong community input is needed so transit planners can better understand the ways Central Corridor community members use transit and how they would like to use it if given the opportunity to connect. The District Councils Collaborative of Saint Paul and Minneapolis (DCC) and Metro Transit have formed a partnership to implement a pilot “trusted advocate” community engagement model to ensure all communities have a voice in the study. The trusted advocate project focus is to reach communities of color, new immigrant communities, people with disabilities and low-income families and individuals. The District Councils Collaborative of Saint Paul and Minneapolis (DCC) is excited to share that we are accepting applications from individuals interested in being Trusted Advocates for their communities. Trusted Advocates are members of a community who have established themselves as leaders or advocates and have built confidence amongst their community.
- 11) There are openings on the Civilian Police Review Authority, Minneapolis Ethical Practices Board, Family Housing Fund (McKnight), Public Health Advisory Committee, and Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov.