



**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes

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

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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, llama 612-673-2700;

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

# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the West Bank, 11-21-12

**Cam's next West Bank Office Hours:  
Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11:00am  
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave**

## Items:

- 1) Thank You For Voting
- 2) Amendment Results
- 3) Cedar Ave Sidewalks
- 4) Red Sea Liquor License Application
- 5) Sexual Assault in Riverside Park
- 6) Seven Corners Pedestrian Improvement Project
- 7) Riverside Extension Project
- 8) Change in Parking Contract
- 9) 2013 Budget
- 10) Police Chief
- 11) Climate Change Action Plan Meetings
- 12) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) Thanks to everyone in Ward 2 for voting on November 6. Turnout in Minneapolis was high and your participation in our democracy is vital to health of our city, state and country. Gratitude is also due to the many election judges and elections professionals that worked hard throughout a long day to ensure the best election possible. Many people waited in long lines in the cold and rain. I am sorry for any inconveniences and I thank you for patience, diligence, and determination to make your voice heard, as some residents had waits of an hour or even longer. Please know that the City is conducting full a review of this election and that there will be a report to the Elections Committee on December 3rd, including a precinct by precinct analysis of all polling place issues like long wait times, numbers of election judges per precinct, and space concerns
- 2) I am very pleased that both of the constitutional amendments – to ban same-sex marriage and require voters to have a photo ID – failed yesterday. I'm proud that the City Council took a strong, unanimous stand against both amendments, and that the Second Ward voted so conclusively against them. **84%** of Ward 2 residents voted against the marriage amendment, and **81%** voted against the voter ID amendment.
- 3) As you may know, the City and County have allocated funds to redo the sidewalks on Cedar Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and the new Central Corridor light rail station. At a site visit on November 19<sup>th</sup>, it became clear that, to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, most or all of the curb and gutter on the west side of Cedar between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets will have to be replaced. This presents an opportunity to potentially widen the sidewalk as part of this project, if a) Hennepin County agrees to change Cedar between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from a four-lane to a three-lane roadway and b) additional funding is allocated to the project. In order to have a functional sidewalk on the east side of Cedar, it may be necessary to do the east side in 2013 and the west side in 2014 or later. I will be hosting a public meeting on the Cedar Avenue sidewalk project on **Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>** from 6-8pm at the Brian Coyle Center.
- 4) The Red Sea Bar's application for a Class B license has been postponed until at least November 26<sup>th</sup>, due in large part to a violent incident in late October that may have had a connection to the establishment. Many neighborhood stakeholders – businesses, residents, property owners – attended the public hearing for the Red Sea's application to speak in favor. City Licensing staff have drafted a set of proposed conditions, and my office will be working to ensure that the license will move forward with conditions that are appropriate to the concerns that have been raised and that allow the Red Sea to continue to be successful for years to come.

- 5) On Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, a woman was sexually assaulted in Riverside Park. The suspect was described as a black male, 5' 5" tall, 35 to 40 years old with an unshaven scruffy beard. He had a medium to heavy build and was wearing a navy blue jacket with a zipper. The case number for this incident is 12-359509. The case has been assigned to Sergeant David Mattson of the Minneapolis Police Department's Sex Crimes Unit. Anybody with information is asked to call Sergeant Mattson at 612-673-2358. The case has also been referred to Crime Stoppers of Minnesota, which is offering a reward of up to \$1000 for information. To provide information to Crime Stoppers regarding this incident, or any other serious crime, call 1-800-222-8477(TIPS), text TIP674 plus your information to 274637(CRIMES) or go to the Crime Stoppers website at [crimestoppersmn.org](http://crimestoppersmn.org) and click on "Give a Tip." All callers are given a unique identifier and no names are used. The Police Department has also immediately implemented a focused patrol in the Riverside Park area, particularly in the morning hours, along with a presence by beat officers on bikes. Officers have been instructed to be "highly visible". The Park Police will be deploying a camera to Riverside Park on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 6) The Council is poised to accept a \$765,000 grant from the Federal Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot to significantly improve pedestrian safety at the Seven Corners intersection through bump-outs and improvements to signalization. I expect this project to occur next year.
- 7) Public Works held a public comment meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S and 4<sup>th</sup> St S reconstruction project. A new idea has been presented by CPED staff: to transform the existing street on 16<sup>th</sup> Ave S south of 6<sup>th</sup> St to a pedestrian and bicycle mall. This would add to the developable parcels on the east and west, and could much better facilitate pedestrian access to the Cedar Riverside LRT station. Another key question will be how pedestrian access will be allowed from Riverside Plaza to the Brian Coyle Center, through some portion of the Fine development and across 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S.
- 8) The Council has voted to authorize CPED staff to negotiate & execute a contract with Interstate Parking to operate the three City-owned parking lots on the West Bank. Members of WBBA were involved on the review committee, and supported moving the contract from Impark to Interstate Parking.
- 9) Throughout October, the Ways and Means Committee has been reviewing the Mayor's proposed in budget at hearings where city departments report on how the budget will effect there plans and operations. Starting Saturday, November 10, the City is rebroadcasting all of the budget hearings on Minneapolis 79 every weekend until the budget is approved Wednesday December 12. You can also watch any of the budget hearings online here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79schedule>. The City Council will have two public meetings before a final budget is approved: Wednesday, Nov. 28, 6:05 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6:05 p.m. Both will be held at City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, in room 317 Visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget/WCMS1P-097420> for more information on the Mayor's recommended budget
- 10) The Mayor has formally nominated Janee Harteau to be the next Minneapolis Chief of Police. I know Ms. Harteau from her time as Inspector of the First Precinct (which includes Cedar Riverside) and have great respect for her. I will be interested to hear her plans for increasing police accountability and the diversity of the police force. The public hearing on this appointment will be held at the Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health committee on **November 28<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30pm.
- 11) The City is updating our Climate Action Plan. The public is invited to two open houses to get feedback on draft recommendations that are now before the Climate Action Plan Steering Committee: **5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 27** Powderhorn Park Community Center, 3400 15th Ave. S and **5:30-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 29** U of M Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. The draft recommendations and a short survey to collect feedback are available at [www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate). The updated Plan will recommend new initiatives that could reduce pollution in transportation, land use, buildings and waste while furthering the City's goals for a healthy, growing and equitable community. While climate change is a global issue, local action can make a difference. Over the last 10 months, the City has worked with public, private and nonprofit partners and the community to update the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan. For more information on the Climate Action Plan update, future meeting dates and ways Minneapolis residents can get involved, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate).
- 12) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Charter Commission, Environmental Advisory Committee, Civil Rights Commission, Disabilities Advisory Committee, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing Board of Appeals, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Planning Commission, Police Conduct Oversight Commission, Police Conduct Review Panel, Public Health Advisory Committee, Senior Advisory Committee, MTN Board, ThincGreen Advisory Committee, Youth Violence Prevention Committee and Zoning Board of Adjustment. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email [cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov).