



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/council/ward2/

Items:

- 1) Seward Café Rezoning
- 2) Civilian Review Authority
- 3) Utility Franchise Work Group
- 4) Sample Ballots for November 6 Election
- 5) New Police Recruits
- 6) Equity in Employment Resolution
- 7) 2013 Budget
- 8) Changes Proposed for Regulatory Services
- 9) Animal Care and Control Fundraiser/Open House
- 10) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The Seward Café has applied to rezone their property from C1 to C2, to allow for nighttime hours and a beer/wine license with general entertainment. I understand that this will come before the Community Development Committee on October 9th.
- 2) I voted against the proposal to merge the current Civilian Review Authority with the Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit. The proposal sharply divided the Council, finally passing 8-5. This new ordinance essentially dismantles civilian police oversight in Minneapolis, and I am very sorry that I could not stop it. On a 7-6 margin, the Council rejected an amendment I crafted, which had the support of staff, to increase the number of civilians on the Review Panels from 2 to 3, so that there will be more civilians than police officers on each panel. For more analysis, please see my blog.
- 3) The Council has voted to create a new Utility Franchise Work Group to assist the City in preparing for negotiations regarding its electric and natural gas franchise agreements with public utility companies. I am one of the four Council Members who have been appointed to this Work Group. Among its tasks, the work group will develop a set of policy principles that will guide the city in its franchise discussions; review and consider potential legislative and/or other regulatory changes and consider formal support for these changes on the City's state legislative agenda; and develop a community engagement program. I am very supportive of having this conversation, and exploring all of our options: renewing the franchise agreements, renegotiating them to include more green energy and energy efficiency, or starting the process to become a municipal power utility.
- 4) Sample ballots for the upcoming Nov. 6 Presidential General Election are now available for review at either of the following web tools: the Secretary of State's Voter Registration Lookup (<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>), or the Poll-finder/Where do I Vote: <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. Both of these tools will allow a voter to view their Ward/Precinct information, a polling place location (address and building identification), a list of candidates that will be on your ballot, and an unofficial Sample Ballot that can be reviewed anytime through Election Day.

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.

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

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

- 5) This month 13 new police recruits began their training in what is the Police Department's first class in almost three years, and is one of the most diverse classes the department has ever had. The class of 12 includes seven people of color and is anticipated to graduate from the academy and begin their field training process in January of 2013. This will likely be the first of a number of classes that will begin within the next few years as retirements within the police department accelerate. More than 600 people applied for 25-30 openings and I was glad to learn that there is a high degree of talent and diversity and am hopeful that this will help bring us closer to having a police department that comes from and looks like the community it serves.
- 6) The resolution *Supporting Equity in Employment in Minneapolis and the Region* that I authored has passed the Council unanimously.
- 7) In August the Mayor released his proposed 2013 budget to the City Council that includes increasing the total property tax levy by 1.7%. Each department will make budget presentations through mid-November, and there will be two public hearings before a final budget is approved in December. For a schedule of presentations go to www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget . All budget hearings will be broadcast live (and rebroadcast) on Minneapolis 79 (the City's cable channel). You can find the rebroadcast schedule and also view the hearings online at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79> . The public hearings on the tax levy and 2013 budget will be on **Wednesday, November 28, starting at 6:05 p.m.** and **Wednesday, December 12, 6:05 p.m.** in City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, room 317. For more information on the Mayor's recommended 2013 budget go to www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget . As always I welcome hearing from you about your priorities and concerns related to this significant city decision.
- 8) The Mayor's proposed budget includes a significant change to the Department of Regulatory Services and the elimination of 3 - 5 upper management positions. As proposed, Regulatory Services would be reorganized by moving business licensing and development review functions to the Community Planning and Economic Development Department, Environmental Services (food inspection and healthy housing) to the Department of Health and Family Support, and keeping the remaining Regulatory Services' functions (housing inspections, animal control and possibly traffic) concentrated in a new Department of Inspections. The City Coordinator, Paul Aasen, will lead a Transition Committee to develop more details and a process that I am hopeful will include seeking feedback from residents as well as from Regulatory Services staff and other stakeholders
- 9) On Sept. 29, am joining City Council members, community leaders and others to help raise awareness and money for the 4,000 animals that are cared for at the city's animal shelter each year. An Open House celebration at the shelter will feature dog agility demonstrations, building tours, food and children's activities, including face-painting, balloon art and an inflatable jumping area. More than 20 businesses and organizations will also have educational booths at the event. The free event will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Minneapolis Animal Care & Control, 212 17th Avenue North.
- 10) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Capital Long Range Improvement Committee, Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee, Civil Rights Commission, Civilian Police Review Authority, Disabilities Advisory Committee, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing Board of Appeals, Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, Planning Commission, Public Health Advisory Committee, Senior Advisory Committee, Mpls Telecommunications Network, ThincGreen Advisory Committee and Youth Violence Prevention Committee. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov.