



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

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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.

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Southeast Como, 1-14-14

Cam's next Como Office Hours: Thursday, 2-13-14
Muddsuckers Coffee, 1500 Como Ave SE

Items:

- 1) Office Hours
- 2) Community Meeting on TCE Vapor
- 3) TCE Information Open Houses
- 4) Mayors Hodges Visit U on Public Safety Tour
- 5) Council Organization
- 6) Parking Forum
- 7) Conservation District Ordinance
- 8) Mattress Recycling
- 9) Openings on City Boards and Commissions

- 1) I am changing some of my office hours locations, and day and time. Last term I held ward office hours in Southeast Como on the second Tuesday of each month, from 9:30-11am, at Muddsuckers Coffee. This new term I will be holding my Como office hours on the **second Thursday** of every month, from 9:30-11am at Muddsuckers.
- 2) Council member Kevin Reich and I are convening a community meeting, in cooperation with the Southeast Como Improvement Association, to provide a forum for the community to discuss the trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination. Health, legal, housing and property assessment staff will be available to help answer questions. The discussion will be facilitated by a professional facilitator with the goal of helping community members share concerns, get questions answered and begin to determine if there should be a more unified community response to this issue and if so, what it should be. The meeting will be held **Thursday, January 23rd, from 7-9pm at Van Cleve Recreation Center** 901 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis.
- 3) The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Department of Health, Barr Engineering, and General Mills will be hosting two more community office hours in January: **January 15**, 4-6pm and **January 28**, 4-6pm at Van Cleve Park. They are working to test all homes in a designated area and provide mitigation to homes that test at high enough levels. To see the updated sampling results map, as well as additional information on the project, visit <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/ax83hxx>.
- 4) On January 7, Mayor Betsy Hodges spent the noon hour at the University of Minnesota as part of her Public Safety tour. She met with members of the City's Police Department, leaders from the Minnesota Student Association (MSA), the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), University President Eric Kaler, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Danita Brown Young; Vice President for University Services Pam Wheelock; and University Police Chief Greg Hestness. I was pleased to see that the Mayor chose to focus on safety in and around campus as part of her tour. I also commend the U of M police and the second precinct for recent increased patrols and investigations in response to a series of concerning crimes last fall. Targeted efforts by UMPD – including more than 300 hours of overtime patrols and concurrent work with municipal partners – have resulted in six recent arrests and dozens more legal stops, citations and gun seizures.
- 5) On January 6th the new mayor and council members were formally sworn in. During the first Council meeting that morning we voted new leadership. Two Council members expressed interest in being Council President, Council members Barb Johnson and Elizabeth Glidden. I, and 5 of my colleagues, were publically supporting Glidden, but

when it was she clear she would note get 7 votes, the Council unanimously voted to name Barbara Johnson as council president and Elizabeth Glidden as vice president. We also approved a the standing committees and committee leadership including : Committee of the Whole, chaired by Elizabeth Glidden, Community Development & Regulatory Services Committee, chaired by Lisa Goodman, Elections & Rules Committee, chaired by Jacob Frey, Health, Environment & Community Engagement Committee, chaired by me, Intergovernmental Relations Committee, chaired by Elizabeth Glidden, Public Safety, Civil Rights & Emergency Management Committee, chaired by Blong Yang, and vice chaired by me, Transportation & Public Works Committee, chaired by Kevin Reich, Ways & Means Committee, chaired by John Quincy, and Zoning & Planning Committee, chaired by Lisa Bender. The major committees I will serve on are executive (as Minority Leader), Heath, Environment and Community Engagement, Transportation and Public Works and Public Safety. I am very excited about chairing the new Health Energy and Community Engagement committee that will also provide leadership for the city's energy issues and Animal care and Control. Many of my priority issues, including Homegrown Minneapolis, Youth Violence Prevention, Early Childhood and Family Support as well as Sustainability and addressing Climate Change will be part of this committee's work. I am also excited to be serving on the Transportation and Public Works committee for the first time and hope to be able to do more to support alternative, clean forms of transportation and moving us toward being a zero waste city. More information about City Council committee meetings and the 2014 meeting schedule is at www.minneapolismn.gov/council.

- 6) A University District Alliance parking task force, that I am a part of, has been studying the impact of current city parking requirements on recent residential developments in the University District, and is developing recommendations to adjust the requirements. On Wednesday, January 29, from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at University Lutheran Church of Hope, Heritage Hall (601 - 13th Avenue SE) we will be sharing the results of the analysis and the draft recommendations for feedback. You can see the draft report and recommendations from the task force. The final report from the task force, expected to be complete at the end of February and will be presented Alliance Board and then I hope to bring them to the City of Minneapolis for formal consideration later this winter or early spring.
- 7) A draft of the new conservation district ordinance I have been working on is now ready for comment. It is intended to safeguard notable visual character in a manner that offers more protections than the zoning code but is less stringent than historic district design guidelines. The City will host a public meeting to discuss the proposal at: 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 28 in City Hall, Room 319,350 S. Fifth St. The proposed conservation district ordinance is designed to ensure that development in notable areas respects neighborhood character. Under the proposal, two-thirds of property owners in a contiguous area with notable visual character would have the opportunity to request conservation district status. If passed, the proposed ordinance would amend the City's existing Heritage Preservation Regulations. Comments on the draft of this ordinance will be accepted in person during the public meeting or by emailing City staff member John Smoley at john.smoley@minneapolismn.gov by 4:30 p.m., Feb. 4. Following the gathering of public input, the proposed ordinance will be revised and prepared for review by the State Historic Preservation Office, the Heritage Preservation Commission and the Minneapolis City Council. For updated project information please visit www.minneapolismn.gov/hpc/conservation_district_ordinance.
- 8) In 2013 the City's mattress recycling program won a Local Government Innovation Award from the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, the Association of Minnesota Counties, the League of Minnesota Cities and the Minnesota School Boards Association. Since program began in July 2012, more than 36,000 mattresses have been collected. About 80 percent of each mattress can be recycled. Mattress recycling in Minneapolis will divert nearly 1,000 tons of recyclable materials from the incinerator each year. Minneapolis is the only city in the nation to regularly collect mattresses for recycling. In a partnership with Hennepin County Environmental Services and Project for Pride in Living, Minneapolis picks up mattresses for recycling from all Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling customers at the resident's recycling collection point (at the curb or alley) at no additional charge. Mattresses and box springs are to be placed out on recycling week only, and mattresses that become waterlogged from rain or snow are not recyclable. The program supports 15 year-round, full-time positions through Project for Pride in Living's Self Sufficiency program, which provides job training to immigrants, men and women leaving prisons, and other people living with economic disadvantages. <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/>
- 9) There are openings on the Board of Appeal and Equalization, and Civil Rights Commission. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov.