



**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes

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## Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Prospect Park, 4-28-14

**Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:**  
Pratt School, Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11am

### Items:

- 1) Alliance Forum with Gil Penalosa
- 2) Community Land Trust Meetings
- 3) Lindsay Wollschlager to Serve on CLIC
- 4) Bike Week May 4-11
- 5) Comment Opportunities on Bike Plans
- 6) Long-Term Carbon Emission Goal Adopted
- 7) Indigenous People's Day Resolution
- 8) Mobile Grocery Ordinance Public Hearing
- 9) Environmentally Acceptable Packaging Ordinance
- 10) 2320 Colfax Ave S
- 11) Electronic Rideshare Public Hearing
- 12) 1812 Franklin Ave SE
- 13) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) You are encouraged to attend a forum with Gil Penalosa **Wednesday, May 7**, 8:00-9:30am, at the Weisman Art Museum. From creating open streets in Bogota, Colombia to "Doable Neighborhoods" in four Ontario cities, Gil Penalosa is an implementer and activist for a people-friendly public realm, with sustainable and healthy mobility. Called "the Pied Piper of Sustainable Transportation," Mr. Penalosa has influenced thousands through his TED talks and consultations with cities in North and South America. For registration and further details, go here: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/complete-communities-in-the-university-district-a-forum-with-gil-penalosa-registration-11392121141>.
- 2) The City of Lakes Community Land Trust is holding a series of meetings on the opportunities they will be offering in the University District for people buying homes for the first time. The CLCLT can help households with incomes at 80% of the Twin Cities median buy homes, and can help keep homes owner-occupied and affordable in the long term. To find out more, come to the meeting on Tuesday, April 29, noon-1pm, in room 140 of the Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Dr SE, or Thursday, May 15, from 4:30-5:30pm in room 2-228 of the Carlson School, 321 19<sup>th</sup> Ave S. For more information, see [clclt.org](http://clclt.org).
- 3) I have appointed Prospect Park resident **Lindsay Wollschlager** to a place on the City's Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC), which helps the Mayor and City Council prioritize capital and infrastructure investments. I want to thank Lindsay for her willingness to serve.
- 4) Minneapolis Bike Week is a weeklong series of events and activities from **May 4** through **May 11** promoting all types of bicycling with a focus on encouraging those who do not normally ride to give it a try. Minneapolis Bike Week will showcase the ease, simplicity and enjoyment of going places by bike. Events and activities include group rides with City Council Members, classes, commuter pit stops, free breakfasts, celebration locations and much more. Whether commuting, getting in your workout, or just cruising around the neighborhood, Bike Week is a great opportunity to get out riding. Plus, we'll make it easy with fun events and activities. Check out [mplsbikeweek.org](http://mplsbikeweek.org) for more information.
- 5) I strongly supported and coauthored Council Member Alondra Cano's resolution to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day in Minneapolis. I see this move as building on the groundwork laid in the Year of the Dakota resolution from 2012.

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

[Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

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, llama 612-673-2700;

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

- 6) Join the City and Hennepin County to provide input and get an update on the county-wide bike plan and the City's protected bikeway plan on **Thursday, May 8**, from 4:30-7:30pm, at the Minneapolis Central Library. Find more information about the Hennepin County bike plan at [www.hennepin.us/bikeplan](http://www.hennepin.us/bikeplan). Find more information about the City of Minneapolis projected bikeway plan at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/projects/WCMS1P-123828](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/projects/WCMS1P-123828). The Minnesota Department of Transportation is also holding a public meeting about their Statewide Bicycle System Plan on Thursday, **May 15**, at the U of M Urban Research and Outreach Engagement Center (UROC), 2001 Plymouth Ave N. There will be a structured workshop from 4-6pm, and a community open house from 6-7pm.
- 7) The Council has adopted a new long-term carbon emission reduction goal for the City of Minneapolis: we will strive to reduce carbon emissions by **80% or more** by 2050, from a 2006 baseline. This is in line with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recommendations and the 2050 goals already adopted by the State of Minnesota and Hennepin County, and was recommended by the City's Sustainability staff and the Community Environmental Advisory Committee.
- 8) The Council's Community Development and Regulatory Services committee will hold a public hearing on my proposed amendments to the Mobile Grocery Store ordinance on **Tuesday, May 13**, at 1:30pm. The intent of this ordinance is to allow mobile grocery stores to operate in more places in Minneapolis. Right now, they can only operate in the parking lots of "senior highrise buildings." If passed, my amendments will allow these businesses to operate in the parking lots of any high-density residential building, and any commercial or industrial building, with the permission of the property owner. The mobile grocery stores will have to exceed the current staple food requirements for fresh fruits and vegetables, and won't be allowed to operate closer than 100 feet to existing brick-and-mortar grocery stores or farmers markets. This ordinance has the support of the Minneapolis Food Council, because it will help increase access to healthy foods in all parts of the city.
- 9) On **May 12**, the Health, Environment and Community Engagement committee will hold a public hearing on the proposed changes to the City's Environmentally Acceptable Packaging ordinance introduced by Council Member Andrew Johnson. This ordinance has been on the books since the late 1980s, but was weakened in the early 1990s. The proposal is to return the ordinance to its original strength by prohibiting non-recyclable takeout containers from restaurants. Instead, restaurants can use recyclable plastic containers, or compostable paper or plastic containers. I am very supportive of this ordinance, which my staff helped CM Andrew Johnson's staff and our Health Department to craft. I see this as one action that, along with many others, will allow the city to reach our zero waste goals.
- 10) I voted with a large Council majority (11 to 2) to allow the demolition of the rooming house at 2320 Colfax in Ward 10. This was a difficult decision, so I wanted to take the time to explain my vote. I want to be clear that this was not a case of the City tearing down this structure, but of the City having to decide whether to restrict the private property owner from tearing down the structure he owns. The key question for me in this case was whether this house meets the standards in the ordinance for a historic landmark. The [analysis](#) of our professional Historic Preservation staff was that it does not. It has lost its integrity as a historic resource due to three fires, substantial rebuilding, loss of original windows and siding and more. Given that analysis, I did not see a compelling reason for the City to restrict the property owner's rights. I also want to add that some of the rhetoric that was used by opponents of demolition of this house – especially towards my colleague Lisa Bender, the Council Member from Ward 10 – was simply unacceptable. I realize that emotions run high on issues of preservation and development, but that is no excuse for the sort of personal attacks and vitriol that were leveled at Council Member Bender. I hope that the very clear majority on this vote will help folks recognize that using this sort of rhetoric is not actually helpful to one's cause.
- 11) There will be a public hearing on Council Member Frey's ordinance to license electronic rideshare or "peer-to-peer" services on Tuesday, April 29th, sometime after 1:30pm. I continue to support this ordinance in concept. The City of Minneapolis should regulate electronic ridesharing companies as what they are, not attempt to regulate them as taxicabs. While there are aspects of the taxi ordinance that will not be applied to companies like Uber and Lyft, they are also not afforded some of the benefits the City makes available to taxis, like the use of taxi stands and the ability to accept street hails. From what I have seen so far, Council Member Frey's ordinance does a good job of establishing a careful regulatory framework.
- 12) The City is accepting public comment until May 22<sup>nd</sup> on a proposal to sell the City-owned parcel at 1812 Franklin Ave SE to the adjacent property owners. This is a narrow piece of land on the southeast corner of Franklin and Arthur Ave SE. If you have any comments about this land sale, call Rebecca Law at 673-5064, or email her at [rebecca.law@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:rebecca.law@minneapolismn.gov).
- 13) Applications are now being accepted for a number of open boards and commission positions that the City Council and mayor will appoint this spring. Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City. There are more than 40 open positions on the following six City boards and commissions. For more, go to: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/>.