



**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes

**Cam Gordon**  
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Second Ward

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# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Prospect Park, 6-23-14

**Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:**  
**Pratt School, Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11am**

**Items:**

- 1) Temporary Polling Place Change
- 2) Franklin Ave SE
- 3) Green Line Opening
- 4) Expansion of Premises Ordinance
- 5) Game Day Parking Ordinance
- 6) Whose "Yard" Is It?
- 7) New Bicycle Advisory Committee Appointee
- 8) Community Engagement Public Meetings
- 9) Car2Go Report
- 10) Community Engagement Blueprint for Equity
- 11) Sheriff No Longer to Honor ICE Detainers
- 12) U of M Principles of Community Engagement
- 13) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) Due to construction occurring at Pratt School this fall, the Council has changed the polling place for Ward 2, Precinct 5, from Pratt School to Prospect Park United Methodist Church (22 Orlin Ave SE). Notice will be sent to all households in the precinct with at least one registered voter.
- 2) My office is working with City Public Works staff and the Mayor's office to explore a plan to add a protected bikeway to Franklin Avenue SE, to create a safe, convenient connection for bicyclists from the Franklin Ave Bridge (which will see the addition of protected bike lanes as a result of Hennepin County's renovation project) to the border with St. Paul. The plan at this point is to repurpose currently underused parking lanes into a protected bike lane. Parking surveys conducted by my office indicate that nearly every residence has access to off-street parking and there is a very low rate of parking on Franklin except in the vicinity of St. Frances Cabrini, where we will work to preserve parking. Because the rate of parking is so low, most of Franklin appears to drivers to have very wide travel lanes, encouraging speeding, which means that adding a protected bike lane that will narrow the roadway will also serve to calm traffic. We were able to share plans with residents at the Pratt Ice Cream Social, and my office will be scheduling a public meeting to discuss the project this summer.
- 3) After years of planning and preparation, the Green Line is open. I want to thank Prospect Park residents, PPERRIA, and staff for the City, County and Met Council for their years of effort to ensure that the train would be a success.
- 4) My ordinance amendment to allow bars and restaurants to increase the times they can offer services outdoors on adjacent property as a temporary expansion of their premises has been approved by the Council's Community Development and Regulatory Services committee, and I expect it to pass the full Council this Friday. If this amendment is approved, the annual limit of 12 days may be waived by the license official for special events. This is specifically intended to allow local businesses to be able to benefit from the increase in games and events going on at the University Stadium while the Vikings will be playing home football games there.
- 5) Also because of the coming Vikings games at the University area, I am working to modify the rules so local businesses will be able to allow game-day parking on nonresidential parking lots. This is already allowed for Gopher games and I would like to extend the option to Vikings games as well. This has also passed the Community Development and Regulatory Services committee, and I expect it to pass the Council this Friday.

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.

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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.

- 6) I am concerned about the future of the new Downtown East park called “the Yard,” and fear that we are giving away too much control and too much time to private, commercial interests. If we don’t change course this park could fall far short of its potential to be a real public jewel that serves all Minneapolitans and will instead just serve the few who will use it as an extension of stadium events. You can read more of my concerns and solutions on the Second Ward blog.
- 7) Our new Ward 2 appointee to Bicycle Advisory Committee was approved for a two-year term this month. I have appointed **Hayat Ahmed**. Hayat lives in the Riverside Park area of the West Bank. She is a member of the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition board, and recently re-learned how to ride a bicycle through programs at SPOKES Bike-Walk Connect. I am thrilled to be appointing someone who can share this unique perspective. It is also great to see that the new BAC will be significantly more diverse than the existing BAC, including six women and five people of color.
- 8) The Health, Energy and Community Engagement Committee that I chair and the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission are holding two community meetings on community engagement on **Thursday, July 31**, 6-9pm at East Phillips Park, 2307 17th Avenue South, and **Saturday, August 2**, 9:30am-noon at Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling Avenue North, in the gymnasium. We will be exploring way to improve our community engagement system in Minneapolis to help make this a better, more engaged, more equitable city. We will be asking residents and community members: How can city leaders better support, engage and work with neighborhood and community leaders and organizations to help make Minneapolis more racially and economically equitable? What can city and neighborhood leaders do to help ensure that neighborhood organizations and all city boards and committees reflect our communities? What would get you more involved in your neighborhood organization and in the civic life of our city?
- 9) According to Car2go’s recently released third-quarter report, its membership has reached 8,224 since its Minneapolis pilot program began with on Sept. 12, 2013. About six months later, Hourcar and Zipcar were added to the two-year program. These three companies have since been sharing vehicles throughout the city using on-street parking spaces as well as off-street ones. According to Car2go’s third-quarter report since March, Car2go averages about 3,150 rentals a week. That’s roughly double where it was at the start of the year. The average number of rentals per car per day is currently 1.25, and it’s consistently been above 1.0 since late March. The average distance traveled by a Car2go vehicle per trip is about 3.5 miles. The average time of a trip is approximately 21 minutes and 20 seconds. There is no City funding in this car sharing pilot program and the companies pay the City market rates for use of on-street parking space. For more information or if you have questions or concerns you can contact representatives from the three participating car-sharing businesses: Car2go: Josh Johnson – 612-759-8711, [Joshua.johnson@daimler.com](mailto:Joshua.johnson@daimler.com) [www.car2go.com](http://www.car2go.com) ; Hourcar: Christopher Bineham – 651-789-5702, [christopherb@thenec.org](mailto:christopherb@thenec.org) [www.thenec.org](http://www.thenec.org) ; Zipcar: Brian Harvey – 612-270-2848, [bharvey@zipcar.com](mailto:bharvey@zipcar.com) [www.zipcar.com](http://www.zipcar.com)
- 10) The Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department, and the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) presented a proposal to improve community engagement in the city to a Council Committee in May. Called the Blueprint for Equitable Engagement it will focus on three areas. First, it will aim to help neighborhood organizations assess whether their outreach efforts, board decision making processes and distribution of resources are being conducted with a lens of equity and inclusion. Second, it will look at the City’s boards and commissions with the goal of having the advisory and planning boards and commissions reflect the diversity in the community. Third, it will look at the City enterprise’s outreach and engagement efforts and the community engagement efforts of City departments and how they connect and involve residents.
- 11) The Hennepin County Sheriff and Attorney announced that the Hennepin County Jail will no longer honor US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees, absent judicial authority. I want to thank Sheriff Rich Stanek and County Attorney Mike Freeman for taking this great step in the right direction.
- 12) At the Friday, June 13 meeting of the Board of Regents, Vice President for University Services and Vice President and Chief Financial Officer presented new principles of community engagement for the University. I appreciate that these build on efforts, like the Alliance, already underway and see it as a positive step making is clear that the institution recognizes the importance of having healthy, vital and safe neighborhoods near the campus area. The principles were more general in nature affirming that having safe, livable neighborhoods adjacent to campus supports the University’s core mission, and that the University’s active engagement with public, private, and community partners in Minneapolis is important. I am very supportive of this move by the U, and believe that it will help to continue the improvement in the U’s relationship to its surrounding communities and strengthen the University Alliance.
- 13) Applications are now being accepted for a number of open board and commission positions that the City Council and mayor will appoint this spring. Applications will be reviewed beginning April 25, but the positions are open until filled. Visit the City’s website at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for more information.