



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Cam Gordon
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Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Seward Neighborhood 10-2-14

Cam's next Seward Office Hours:
Thursday, October 23rd, 9:30-11:00am
Blue Moon Coffee Café, 3822 E Lake St

Items:

- 1) Fall Street Sweeping
- 2) Minnehaha Avenue Reconstruction
- 3) Franchises and Clean Energy Partnership
- 4) Conservation District Ordinance
- 5) Staple Food Ordinance
- 6) E-cigarette Ordinance
- 7) New Sister City in Somalia
- 8) Seward Coop Creamery
- 9) Cradle to K Cabinet
- 10) Ebola Preparedness
- 11) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The schedule has been set for our next comprehensive street sweep and leaf collection effort. Parking is prohibited on streets when they are being cleaned and cars can be towed. City staff will be posting the first streets on Monday October 20, for sweeping (and enforcement) to begin on Tuesday, October 21. It will take the usual 4 weeks to complete. Use "Street Lookup" at: http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping/streetsweep_streetsweeplookup to see the sweeping schedule online and when your street is scheduled for cleaning.
- 2) Minnehaha Avenue is slated to be reconstructed between 24th and 26th Streets next year. I understand that
- 3) The Council has approved the franchise and Clean Energy Partnership agreements with our energy utilities, Xcel and CenterPoint. This Partnership is a way for the utilities to make good on their commitments to help the City – and the people of Minneapolis – realize our Energy Vision and reach our aggressive goals on climate, environmental justice, renewable energy and more. I view this as a major step forward, but this is only an opportunity. In the next year, as the Partnership gets underway, I will be working hard to make sure it fulfills its promise. www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/10/17/minneapolis-utility-fight-ends-with-unique-clean-energy-deal/.
- 4) The conservation district ordinance intended to allow property owners to organize to better conserve physical aspects of highly valued areas of the city was approved by the Council this month.
- 5) My proposed ordinance requiring a greater amount of healthy food in licensed grocery stores was unanimously approved by the Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee on Monday, October 20. These new food standards are based on, but more flexible than, the Women, Infants and Children program standards. The requirements will apply to more types of stores (including dollar stores, pharmacies and department stores, which are all currently exempt), as long as they accept food assistance. You can read more here: <http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/health/278135071.html>
- 6) I introduced the subject of amending Minneapolis' ordinances to strengthen city regulations around so called "e-cigarettes," which distribute nicotine (and other chemicals) by using electricity and vapor. My intent is to extend the State Clean Indoor Air Act to e-cigarettes. This would prohibit their use in city located bars and restaurants. The public hearing for this ordinance has been set for **November 17th**, at 1:30pm in Council Chambers. There is an informative video about this issue here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D-LAsTQ4wdc&list=UUket7tI3m0r1ScDTuUSREuw>.

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 kaalmeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

7) In October the Council approved formal recognition of Bosaso, Somlia as a sister city. This occurred after extensive review, dating back to July 23, when the City received a proposal from Minnesota Friends of Bosaso to establish a sister city relationship between Bosaso and Minneapolis. The proposal includes a letter from Mayor Hassan Abdalle Hassan of Bosaso expressing his support and encouragement for a sister city connection with Minneapolis. The proposal also includes several letters of support from government officials, both in Puntland and Minnesota, local businesses, and community organizations. A review committee met with members of Minnesota Friends of Bosaso on September 23, 2014 for a presentation and discussion of the proposal. The proposal was reviewed based on the process and criteria for sister city relationships adopted July 17, 1998 and revised October 2, 2009.

8) Seward Coop Creamery.

9) Mayor Hodges has announced that her Cradle to K Cabinet is working on a year-end report in early January which will outline policy, legislative, and collaboration recommendations for 2015. The Cabinet has been meeting since spring and has identified the following three objectives: “that all children receive a Healthy Start rich with early experience to prepare them for successful early education and literacy; all children will be stably housed; and all children will have continuous access to high quality child development programming.” I am very supportive of these goals, and look forwards to working with the Mayor and other stakeholders to achieve them.

10) Our City Health department has been involved in efforts to be prepared for Ebola on several levels. They have consulted with 911, Police and Fire to modify their call protocol and to make sure that responders have sufficient protective equipment. This was done at the request of an HCMC physician and in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Health. They have had a number of planning conversations with our partners in Hennepin County Public Health to assure that our isolation and quarantine procedures are up to date and to discuss how we would arrange for clean-up in settings where a person has been ill with Ebola. They have also participated in several conference calls for local public health agencies with the national Centers for Disease Control. I am not aware of any community meetings as such, but meetings on this topic within city government are certainly place. If people think more public education and city sponsored meetings are appropriate at this time, please let me know.

11) Visit the City’s website for a [full list of appointment opportunities](#) and position descriptions for City boards and commissions. Appointments to boards and commissions are made twice a year — in the spring and fall. This streamlined appointment process makes it easier for folks to learn about volunteer opportunities, ensures a more open and understandable process for residents and staff, and increases the diversity of the applicant pool.