



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

cam.gordon@minneapolismn.gov

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2>
<http://secondward.blogspot.com/>

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Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-3737;

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Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3737.

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Southeast Como, 2-3-15

Cam's next Como Office Hours: Thursday, 2-12-15

Black: Coffee and Waffles, 1500 Como Ave SE

Items:

- 1) Help the City Measure Success
- 2) Sign Up for Compost
- 3) Clean Energy Partnership
- 4) Department of Justice Report on Policing
- 5) Tree Failure Report
- 6) Evaluation of Neighborhood Engagement System
- 7) Southeast Library Report
- 8) U of M Combined Heat and Power Plant
- 9) Home Buying Opportunity in the University District?
- 10) Openings on City Boards and Commissions

- 1) Until February 6 you can help improve the way we measure how well the City is achieving our goals by using an online system you can find at <http://success.minneapolismn.gov>. City staff and policy makers will use this information to develop measures for the most popular themes within each of the five City goals. You can introduce new ideas and vote on those already shared at the site. Information there will update in real time to display changing input and ideas. So you are encouraged to log in often to submit new ideas and vote on new information
- 2) Organics recycling is coming for Minneapolis Solid Waste customers. Those residents who get city recycling service can sign up to request a green composting cart that will be available to 25% of customers in August, and 100% in the spring of 2016. The early sign-up gives the City time to order carts and plan routes. The carts will be distributed only to customers who opt in. Request one at swrcustomer@minneapolismn.gov or by calling 612-673-2917.
- 3) In January the City Council approved its representatives to the new Clean Energy Partnership that was formed last year as part of the City's franchise negotiations with Xcel and CenterPoint. We will have two representatives on the board, Elizabeth Glidden and Kevin Reich and one alternate, me. The partnership's first meeting will be on February 4th from 2-4 pm, where I expect the group to approve bylaws, review potential work plan items and open the nominations period for the Energy Vision Advisory Committee (EVAC). I expect the application period to be part of the EVAC to be open until Friday, **February 20th**. It will be at the McKnight Foundation Board Room 710 S. 2nd Street, Suite 600. It is open to the public and you are welcome to attend. You can learn more about the Partnership and find an application to join the EVAC (after February 4th) at <http://mplscleanenergypartnership.org/>.
- 4) On January 28 the U.S. Department of Justice released a report on police oversight in Minneapolis. The report was done by the DOJ's Office of Justice Programs Diagnostic Center. I commend Chief Harteau for taking advantage of this federal opportunity and for her willingness to work to implement all of the recommendations. These fall into five areas: 1) Improve communications 2) Improve community relations and community policing practices; 3) Improve transparency and increase public knowledge and trust about police oversight efforts; 4) Develop an Early Intervention System I that improves officer

- performance, provides a continuum of interventions and is supported by an automated information system; and, 5) Address inconsistencies and confusion in the coaching process. The DOJ committed to assist with training and technical assistance to implement the recommendations, and to re-assess progress as changes are made. I believe this represents a very significant opportunity with great potential for improving police accountability, oversight, and community relations. You can find the report here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@mpd/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-136807.pdf> and a link to it at the City website here <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/>
- 5) On February 3rd, the Council's Transportation and Public Works committee received a long-anticipated and very important report on the failure of trees during the June 21, 2013 storm. One of the most striking findings is that recent sidewalk repair work made trees more than twice as likely to fail. This clearly shows that our sidewalk replacement practices are negatively impacting our tree canopy goals. Tree canopy is important for reaching many of our other goals, including improving public health, reducing energy use, reducing stormwater runoff, and more. When this came to committee, I moved a staff direction to Public Works staff to work with the Tree Advisory Commission and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and come back to us in July with recommendations for policy changes. You can read the report here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-136845.pdf>
 - 6) One additional budget amendment that I was able to move through with the help of Council Member Palmisano was to allocate \$70,000 for an external assessment of our neighborhood engagement system. We are developing the scope of the study now and hope to issue a Request for Proposals in February and have an evaluation back in August.
 - 7) The final report on library service for the Southeast neighborhoods entitled "Envisioning a Crossroads Library: A Report on Public Engagement and the Future of the Southeast Library" is now available at <https://apps.hclib.org/buildingprojects/library.cfm?BlogPostID=193>. The report was commissioned by Hennepin County and includes findings and recommendations that should help frame future discussions and decisions about the future of the Southeast Library.
 - 8) I provided formal comments and a letter, co-signed with the Mayor, supportive of the University's proposed Combined Heat and Power facility that has been approved by the state regulators. I am delighted that this will move the University away from the burning of coal, something I, and others, have been calling for several years. It will also help improve air quality and reduce the University's net carbon footprint by an estimated 65,000 metric tons of CO₂ and restore an old 100 year old building. The comments and letters also encouraged the University to use this project as an opportunity to make progress on two additional environmental goals. The first is to work with the City and other partners to build a non-motorized trail connection between the new Dinkytown Greenway (which now connects all the way from the University stadium to downtown Minneapolis) and the Stone Arch Bridge. This connection is a vital link that is currently used by many bicyclists and pedestrians every day, under fairly unsafe conditions, and could be a major improvement to non-motorized transportation to and from the U. Secondly, they encouraged the U to use best practices managing stormwater and greening in their landscaping to help improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat. They have already committed to working on the second request. Construction is expected to begin later this year.
 - 9) Do you know some who would you like to buy a home in the University District of Minneapolis (zip codes: 55454, 55414, 55455) but is a limited income? The City of Lakes Community Land Trust and the University District Alliance Housing Committee invite you to an orientation to the City of Lakes Community Land Trust assistance for households with incomes at or below 80% of metro median: Friday, February 20 at noon-- <http://orientation2-20-2015.eventbrite.com>. For more information about the City of Lakes Community Land Trust, and other orientation sessions in Minneapolis: <http://clct.org/application-process/>.
 - 10) Applications are now being accepted for some of the City's boards and commissions. Please visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for more information about openings and how to apply.