

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Seward Neighborhood Group September, 28, 2016

**Cam's Next Seward/Westbank Office Hours:
Thursday, October 2th, 9:30-11:00am
Nabo Café, 2211 Riverside Avenue**

Cam Gordon

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Items:

- 1) Open Streets - University of Minnesota/West Bank
- 2) Zero Waste Stakeholder Meetings
- 3) Dakota Access Pipeline Resolution.
- 4) Police Stops
- 5) Police Complaint Report
- 6) Kids Voting Mpls
- 7) Early Voting
- 8) Voters Guide
- 9) Election Judges
- 10) West River Parkway and the Franklin Avenue Bridge
- 11) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The Open Streets community celebration that will include the West Bank, Dinkytown and both sides of the the U of Mn Minneapolis campus will be held on **Saturday, October 1**, from 11 am – 5 pm. This is a great opportunity to promote healthy living, local businesses, sustainable transportation and our great local communities. For a map and more info visit http://www.openstreetsmpls.org/u_of_mn.
- 2) The City has contracted with Environmental Initiatives to facilitate three initial community meetings to help inform our Zero Waste Plan that will be drafted later this year and early in 2017. I expect there to be more meetings as we identify the specific goals, strategies and implementation in plan in the months ahead. The meetings, focused on three distinct areas will allow community members, businesses, and interested organizations to share input, ideas, and help influence the City's plan to eliminate waste. Meetings are open to the public, but an RSVP is requested. The first, focused on the Multi-Family / apartment building sector will be on **Thursday, September 22**, from 8:30am – 12:00pm at the Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th Street. The second meeting, focused on the commercial / business sector will be on **Wednesday, September 28**, from 8:30am – 12:00pm at the Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall. The 3rd meeting, for the lower density residential sector will be on **Tuesday, October 18**, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Minneapolis Urban League 2100 Plymouth Avenue N. For more information and to RSVP visit <http://environmental-initiative.org/our-work/environmental-policy/city-of-minneapolis-zero-waste-plan>
- 3) The Council, with my strong support, passed a resolution on Friday September 2, in support of the indigenous opposition to the Dakota Access pipeline. The proposed pipeline, that would be constructed and owned by Dakota Access, LLC, a subsidiary of Energy Transfer Crude Oil Company, LLC, to transport crude oil from the Bakken/Three Forks oilfield in North Dakota. It would run for 1,172 miles and would travel through lands sacred to the Lakota people, and cross under the Missouri, Mississippi, and Big Sioux rivers, eventually reaching to Patoka, Illinois. Hundreds of protesters, primarily Lakota and Dakota from Native American reservations within a several-hundred-mile radius as well as farmers and scientists, with support from over 30 environmental organizations, have gathered at the edge of the Standing Rock reservation in North Dakota to voice their opposition. You can find more information here <http://www.dapipelinefacts.com/> and here <http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2016/08/new-american-mega-pipeline-youve-never-heard-dakota-access-bakken>
- 4) I am glad to report that, starting on September 15, Police began tracking demographic data, including race and gender when conducting stops, even where this is no citation issued or arrest made. This includes suspicious vehicle stops, suspicious person stops, and traffic stops.

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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.

This grew, at least in part, out of a motion I made in December 2014 directing the Attorney’s Office and Police Department to “make recommendations concerning the development of a policy and potential protocol for the recording and reporting of demographic information, especially race and location, of police stops that do not necessarily lead to an arrest.” As a result of this and subsequent report from the Police Oversight Commission in May of 2015 that showed how little information was being collected, the police have reaffirmed and strengthened their policy on data collection and added reporting software mechanisms that require officers to enter the information before they can clear a call. Demographic information will also be tracked on calls involving truancy, curfew and attempted pick-ups for individuals wanted for criminal activity. I commend the Chief for moving forward with this and for her commitment to report the results out to the public on a quarterly basis. The data that will be gathered by officers will include demographic information, the basis for the interaction, whether a search was conducted and what demographic information was provided to dispatchers if it was in response to a 911 call.

- 5) In September the Public Safety, Civil right and emergency Management Committee reviewed the report from the Police Conduct Oversight Commission they conducting that provides and analysis of the various methods available to people to submit complaints to the Office of Police Conduct Review and recommendations on how to improve current practices and processes. At the committee I made a motion, that was approved, directing staff from the Civil Rights Department Office of Police Conduct Review to work with the Police Department staff to review the Commission’s recommendations and report back to the Public Safety Civil Rights and Emergency Management Committee on process improvements by March 31 of 2017. You can read news coverage of the report here: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/08/09/issues-found-filing-minneapolis-police-misconduct-reports>, and the full report here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@civilrights/documents/webcontent/wcmstp-184609.pdfefete>.
- 6) Kids Voting Minneapolis is a community-based, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization working to prepare Minneapolis' 50,000 K-12 students to be educated, informed voters. It is part of a national network of that combines civic learning in the classroom, and an authentic voting experience to prepare the next generation of citizens. To do that, they rely on volunteers. hand out ballots, explain the voting process, and distribute I VOTED stickers. To sign up to volunteer go to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0aawZVRRi6yueiZsKXB5_Prm_LsvMXXYOpvH7xEBlmrHWog/viewform?c=0&w=1
- 7) While Election Day is **November 8th**, Minneapolis voters can cast early ballots in the 2016 Presidential General Election, both by mail and in person, starting Friday September 23rd and ending Monday, November 7th. Early Vote Centers will be operating at 217 S. Third Street (downtown); 2100 Plymouth Ave N, 55411 (in the Minneapolis Urban League); 2516 Central Ave NE, 55418 (in the Water Bar); and, 1860 E 28th St, 55407 (in the Roof Depot). Voters must complete a request form to receive an absentee ballot. This form is available from the City’s elections website, so voters should download and complete the form and bring it to one of the City’s four Early Vote Centers. You can access the request form at www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/absentee. Visit www.vote.minneapolismn.gov, www.facebook.com/votempls, www.twitter.com/votempls, #WhereIVote, www.facebook.com/events/1072432446185951/ for more resources.
- 8) I am delighted to report that we will be distributing an improved and expanded 2016 Election Voter Guide all households this year. This is something I have talked about since my first campaign for city council and builds on the success of the first voter guide we did in the 2013 municipal election. This year the guide will include a sample ballot that is an exact match of the specific ward-and-precinct, zip-code based official ballot for that household, in an effort to increase both awareness, education about ballot content, as well as providing an opportunity to pre-mark selections as a guide to reduce time spent in the polls marking the official ballot. Those voter guides are in production right now, and we have planned a target release date of October 31/November 1 to hit all households—exactly one week before Election Day.
- 9) West River Parkway and the Franklin Avenue Bridge have both reopened as of September 1. I know that both of these necessary projects have meant inconvenient detours for my constituents for months or years. It is a relief to have these important routes back, safer and better than before. I want to thank the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Hennepin County for bringing these projects to fruition, and City of Minneapolis staff for all of their work in partnership on these projects.
- 10) Applications are now being accepted for a number of open board and commission positions that the City Council and mayor will appoint this fall. 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. Applications will be reviewed beginning Oct. 21. There are 151 open positions on 17 City boards and commissions. Please visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for a list of appointment opportunities, position descriptions and the applications.