

**Council Member Cam Gordon's  
Report to the Southeast Como Neighborhood  
April 12, 2017**

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*Working for a Minneapolis  
where each of us has the  
freedom and opportunity to  
reach our individual  
potentials while caring for  
one another, improving our  
environment and promoting  
social well-being.*

*Focused not only on our  
immediate needs, but also on  
the future we want for  
ourselves, our children and  
for generations to come.*

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**Cam's Next Como Office Hours:  
Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11:00am  
Black: Coffee and Waffles, 1500 Como Ave SE**

- 1) Public Meeting on Capital Projects
  - 2) Spring Street Sweep Alert
  - 3) State Grab to Take Away Local Control
  - 4) Neighborhoods 2020 Cafes
  - 5) Short-Term Food Ordinance
  - 6) Occupational Concerns at Adult Entertainment Venues
  - 7) 1721 Como Ave SE
  - 8) Blue Door Outdoor Seating
  - 9) Openings on Boards and Commissions
- 1) The City and its Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) is hosting two information sessions where public comments will be taken regarding the upcoming capital improvement projects for next year. These two meetings come before the May 11 joint public hearing of the CLIC and the Planning Commission. Participants will be able to review and comment on project proposals and give feedback to CLIC members on Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Eastside Neighborhood Services, 1700 Second St. NE; and Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Sabathani Center, Room J-3rd Floor, 310 East 38th Street. The joint public hearing will be held Thursday May 11th at 6:00pm-8:00pm in room 319 of City Hall. The CLIC report is an annual report that recommends to the Mayor and City Council a portion of the capital improvement projects requested by departments, boards and commissions for the upcoming five-year period. Capital Budget Requests totaling over \$988 million have been requested related bridges, roads, sidewalks, streets, streetlights, traffic control, bike and pedestrian projects, sewers, water, parks, public buildings and more. You can find more information here <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/finance/reports/WCMS1Q-068780> and here [http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/WCMSP-178520?utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_name=&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/WCMSP-178520?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=).
- 2) From **April 11 to May 5**, sweeping crews will be cleaning our streets. Make sure to follow street sweeping parking rules or you may have your car ticketed and towed to the Minneapolis Impound Lot. In addition to the "No Parking" signs that will be posted the day before sweepers come through, the City will make about 3,500 automated phone calls each evening to let residents know their streets will be swept the next day. You can find out when the crews will be in your neighborhood (on or after April 7), if you go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping) and click on "street sweeping schedule lookup." The weekend before that week, you can revisit the website to find out which day of the week your street is scheduled.
- 3) There appear to be an unprecedented number of bills this year at the state legislature that interfere in local control, and that would affect every city in Minnesota. If these bills (or some of them) would pass, this would be a major change in the fundamental and historic relationship between local (city and

county) and state government, allowing important decisions traditionally made by cities to be controlled at the state level, where residents of those localities will almost certainly have less opportunity to participate in those decisions and less influence. Learn more at <https://www.lmc.org/page/1/LocalAuthorityToolkit.jsp> and consider contacting your state legislators and the Governor about your opposition to attempts to interfere in local control. This includes legislation that would take away the rights of cities to implement any type of carry-out bag ban and completely negate all the work we did, in the face of fierce industry lobbying, to pass our popular Minneapolis Bring Your Own Bag ordinance that is set to go into effect on June 1st. The pre-emption is now part the larger Senate Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Budget Bill, S.F. 723, that that contains a number of very disturbing provisions that you can read about here <https://www.mepartnership.org/letter-to-senators-on-environment-omnibus-bill-s-f-723/> in a letter from the Minnesota Environmental Partnership. The partnership opposes this legislation, along with many others. Even if passed by the legislature, it could still be stopped if vetoed by the Governor. If you support Minneapolis' ordinance, or just the principal of allowing local jurisdictions to have the authority to regulate and manage such things, please call the Governor at (651) 201-3400, and your representatives to let them know you oppose this bill.

- 4) The Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) is helping convene a series of community dialogues with and about neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis. Each event will discuss the following: What services, opportunities and information should neighborhood organizations provide? What are characteristics of an effective neighborhood organization? How can neighborhood organizations empower engagement? The dialogues are a next step in developing recommendations for the Minneapolis City Council on the future work of neighborhood organizations. **Please consider being part of the conversations:** - Tuesday April 25th - 5:30pm to 8:30pm **Plymouth Congregational Church** - 1900 Nicollet Ave. So.; **North** - Saturday April 29th – 10:00am to 2:00pm **North West Corner of Penn and Lowry** (Outdoors under tent); **East** - Wednesday May 3rd - 5:30pm to 8:00pm **NE Minneapolis Armory** - 1025 Broadway St NE 55413; **South** - Thursday May 4th - 5:30pm to 8:30pm **Abubakar-As-Saddique Islamic Center** - 2824 13th Ave So.; **Southwest** - Monday May 8th - 6:00pm to 8:00pm **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park** - 4055 Nicollet Ave So.; For more information and to register for the events, see the Neighborhoods 2020 webpage [here](#).
- 5) There will be a public hearing on April 17 at 1:30 pm before the Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee on the ordinance amendment to the Food Code that I am coauthoring with Council Member Palmisano streamlining our short-term and seasonal short-term food permits and public market and municipal market regulations.
- 6) In March the Health, Environment and Community Engagement committee received two disturbing reports about conditions in establishments with adult entertainment licenses. Following complaints about the cleanliness at some of the establishments, the Health Department inspected each of the 17 adult entertainment licensed businesses in the city. They identified and tested “stains of concern” at 14 establishments and confirmed the presence of potentially infectious material in 11 establishments and ordered them to be cleaned up. Two weeks later, the committee received a very informative follow-up presentation by Dr. Lauren Martin, with the University of Minnesota, about working conditions in these establishments. The report surfaced several concerns at these establishments, including sexual assault, lack of training and health standards, and expectations by customers that they are paying for sex. The report offered recommendations for further action by the City Council. This month I will be introducing ordinance amendments to try to put these recommendations into effect with my colleague Linea Palmisano. You can read the report here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcmsp-196389.pdf>
- 7) Greg Jansma is moving forward with plans to redevelop the vacant corner property at 1721 Como Ave SE, at the intersection of 18th and Como Avenue. His plan is to construct a 3 story mixed use building with apartments on the top two floors and commercial space on the first floor. He is applying for variances to reduce setbacks, to narrow the drive aisle and to reduce the number of off street parking required for the retail from 4 to 1.
- 8) James Brown of Brownsmith Restoration has applied for three variances to allow for an outdoor café at the Blue Door restaurant located at 1514 Como Avenue SE. At the March 30th Zoning Board of Adjustment City staff recommended that the board deny all the variances. After seeing the staff recommendations the applicant requested and the Zoning Board of Adjustment voted not to decide on the matter then, but to continue it two cycles to their May 4th meeting. If it is allowed, they will likely request to stay open until 11 pm, but the city would need to approve those hours.
- 9) Visit the City's website, <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for a full list of appointment opportunities and position descriptions for City boards and commissions.