

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Prospect Park, 7-24-17

Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:
T Rex Cookie Café 3338 University Ave SE
Thursday, August 17th, 9:30-11am

Cam Gordon

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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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an alternative format, please contact
NCR@minneapolismn.gov or 612- 673-
3737 (673-2157 TTY/VOICE)

People who are deaf or hard of hearing
can use a relay service to call 311 at
612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-
2157 or 612-673-2626.

Para asistencia 612-673-2700

Rau kev pab 612-673-2800

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612-673-3500.

Items:

- 1) Changes to Critical Parking Area 6
 - 2) Glendale Historic Designation
 - 3) Minimum Wage
 - 4) Menthol Tobacco Ordinance
 - 5) Changes in Police Leadership in Minneapolis
 - 6) Reform Needed
 - 7) Sick and Safe Time Ordinance Now in Effect
 - 8) Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance.
 - 9) Openings on Boards and Commissions
- 1) Public Works staff and Motley residents have come to a consensus on a proposal to change the time limitations for Critical Parking Area 6. The proposal is **8am-9pm daily**, which is a change from the current **8am-6pm, Mon-Fri**.
 - 2) I am taking the next steps towards local historic preservation of the Glendale Townhomes. I surveyed the residents and 58 indicated they supported local historic nomination, 1 was opposed and 1 was unsure. I will be consulting with the Preservation Alliance of MN about the nomination and will be meeting with staff soon to clarify the timeline. I expect the nomination to go before the Historic Preservation Commission in September.
 - 3) On June 30, on an 11 to 1 vote, the City Council approved a new minimum wage ordinance for Minneapolis. It lays out a timeline to get almost all Minneapolis wage earners to \$15/hour indexed to inflation by July 2024 - within 5 years for businesses with over 100 employees and 7 years for smaller businesses. It offers no tip credit but allows a 90-day "training wage" less than the minimum wage for people under 20 who are participating in a city-recognized employment training or apprenticeship program. It does not include school district, state, federal or University of Minnesota workers, because the city has no authority to regulate those employers. Some people may not be fully satisfied with the result, but I am hopeful that everyone will make a good faith effort to implement it as best we can. This will not only keep more money in our local economy and allow more parents to provide food and shelter for themselves and their children, but it will also directly address historic racial economic inequities that continue to plague our city and state. Of the City's 311,000 workers about 71,000 will be positively affected by the increase, and workers of color will disproportionately benefit. Of Latino workers, 54% will benefit from the increased wages. Of black workers, 41% will benefit. Of white workers, 17% will benefit. I see this as a commitment we are making as a community to both our workers and our employers. As we embark on this transition, let's support our local businesses more than ever and let's keep investing in our workforce to make our city one of the best places to do business in in the country. You can find the staff report, final ordinance and a wealth of additional information at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/minimumwage/MINIMUM-HOME>

- 4) The Council's Health, Environment and Community Engagement committee held a public hearing on the ordinance I have proposed with Council Member Lisa Bender that will, if enacted, limit menthol tobacco products to adult-only tobacco shops. Unfortunately, we lost quorum of the committee before we could take a vote, so the HECE committee will reconvene next week for a special meeting.
- 5) As you have likely heard, in the wake of the killing of Justine Damond by the Minneapolis Police, Chief Janee Harteau has resigned, and the mayor has put forward the name of Medaria Arradondo to be the next Police Chief. This most recent shooting reopens pain and distrust in our community in a police force that just two years ago shot and killed Jamar Clark. Justine should not have been killed, just as Jamar Clark, Terrance Franklin, Philando Castile and so many others should not have been killed. With each death caused by a police officer the urgency for reform grows. I believe that change in leadership for the Minneapolis Police Department is a first step. As she transitions away from her role as Police Chief, we thank Janee Harteau for her years of service to the people of Minneapolis, and the real and important progress that has been made towards transforming our police department on her watch. Her accomplishments, including de-escalation and implicit bias training for all officers and changes to the use of force policy aimed at reducing police violence, are real, valuable, and notable.
- 6) This disconnect between the progress we have made under Chief Harteau's leadership and how far we still need to go underscores the fact that the transformation that is required is larger than any one leader. It requires broad-based, systemic change. Three priority reforms we should move forward on now are:
 - Rebuilding an independent civilian oversight board, including changing state law and city policy so the board has subpoena power for investigations and can discipline police misconduct.
 - A city budget that prioritizes community violence prevention and reform above adding sworn police personnel.
 - Amending the Minneapolis City Charter to ensure that accountability for the police department is shared by the City Council to put the police chief on equal footing with other department heads and ensure every elected official in Minneapolis is engaged in and accountable for reform.
 - Establishing a city Community Task Force on Comprehensive Criminal Justice Reform, loosely modeled off of the President's Task Force for 21st Century Policing, covering Policy & Oversight, Procedural Justice & Transparency, Training & Education, and Technology with a primary focus on eliminating the racial disparities within the criminal justice system, minimizing collateral consequences for those charged or convicted of a crime, and reforming policies disproportionately affecting poor people of color.

Our work on police practices must be grounded in a critical understanding of race and racism in Minneapolis, and the present day consequences of our history. Minneapolis Police Department policies must be evaluated using a race equity lens.

- 7) The City's Safe and Sick Time Ordinance took effect July 1. Employers with six or more workers will be required to provide time off at a minimum threshold of at least one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked. Employers with five or fewer workers must also provide sick time, but it may be unpaid. The goal of the ordinance is to protect public health and prevent workers from being penalized because of illness or a need to care for a sick loved one. People can call 311 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/sicktimeinfo to ask a question or file a complaint.
- 8) I am moving forward with an effort to amend the city carryout bag ordinance so that a fee will be required for plastic as well as paper carry out bags. This means it will fit the constraints imposed by the Governor and state legislative majority last session. It may also allow certified compostable plastic bags to be disturbed without a fee. A final draft of the proposed amendments will be ready soon and the public hearing has been set for August 7th at 1:30 pm.
- 9) Visit the City's website, <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for appointment opportunities and position descriptions for City boards and commissions.