

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Longfellow, 10-24-17

**Cam's Next Longfellow/Cooper Office Hours:
Thursday, October 26, 9:30-11:00am
Blue Moon Coffee Café, 3822 E Lake St**

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

Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612- 673-3737

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

Items:

- 1) Hiawatha-Lake Intersection
- 2) Homicide at Hiawatha-Lake
- 3) Hiawatha Trail Gap Approved
- 4) 2018 Budget
- 5) Sheriff Letter on ICE Detentions
- 6) Street Sweeping
- 7) Zero Waste Plan Engagement
- 8) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) After hearing many concerns about the situation beneath the Hiawatha bridge over Lake Street I have turned my attention to this, even though it is located just outside Ward 2. I am working to coordinate with Council Member Alondra Cano, and reached out to City staff to share concerns and get updates about what they plan to do to address the situation. City Public Works staff have secured a commitment from Hennepin County to participate financially in the next steps needed to humanize this intersection. Building on engagement efforts at this summer's Open Streets event and elsewhere, a scope of work has been developed and is nearly finalized, and that includes engaging the community to achieve consensus on a preliminary design plan for the preferred Tier III concept (which is the "Tight Diamond" design), and developing a phased action plan short-term improvements for the area. I am glad to see that the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization is hosting a community meeting **Saturday, October 28th** from 10 – 11:30 regarding concerns about safety as well as homelessness here. A number of organizations, including city staff will attend to give updates on the work they are doing in the area with time for questions from the community. The meeting will be held on the transit plaza next to the Lake Street LRT station, just north of the Midtown Farmers Market. I am pleased to see this work underway to address the long-term safety and comfort of this intersection for everyone who uses it. I'm also thankful to Public Works and Saint Stephen's Street Outreach for their efforts to address the impacts from the homeless encampment over the summer.
- 2) I was sorry to learn of the fatal stabbing of 26-year-old Daquan Thompson near Lake and Hiawatha in early October. My heart goes out to his friends and family. A person, Frank Runningshield, Jr., 43, was arrested and charged in this case with second-degree murder. It appears that this was the result of a personal dispute between the two, who were acquaintances. Third Precinct Inspector Johnson informed me that officers have been working with MN DOT (which owns the land) to improve safety at this site for some time and believe they have a more workable solution with MN DOT to ensure the area under that bridge is properly posted as it relates to trespass, giving MPD officers legal ground to remove people from that location. They also continue to work with St. Stephens, CM Cano's office, and other city departments in an effort to prevent the issue from returning

- 3) The Council has approved the layout and construction of a bicycle and pedestrian trail along the Hiawatha Avenue Trail where there is currently a gap between East 28th Street to East 32nd Street. You can find details here: <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2017-01195>. I am confident that this will be approved by the full Council and look forward to it being the first of many improvements in the area, especially where Lake Street crosses under the light rail and Highway 55 bridges.
- 4) Mayor Hodges delivered her budget address and full proposed 2018 budget on September 12th. Departments have begun presenting their proposed budgets to the Council through September and October, with formal public hearings at 6:05pm on **November 29** and **December 6**. Prior to the hearing and final budget adoption on December 6th, the Council has reserved December 1st as budget “markup” day when Council Member amendments are presented and considered. Amendments may also be made after the hearing on the 6th as well. This year, the City of Minneapolis has launched a new website dedicated specifically for the budget at budget.minneapolismn.gov. The new site includes the full budget document, Mayor Hodges' budget address, past budgets, FAQs and calendar of upcoming budget meetings. The mayor's proposed budget includes:
- Nearly \$6 million total in clean energy, cleaner businesses, and more efficient commercial and residential spaces in the city. This investment represents a 60 percent increase over the 2014 budget.
 - Raising utility franchise fees by half a percent, which will raise more than \$2 million in 2018 alone to ensure significant, predictable funding to move the dial on Minneapolis' climate impact.
 - \$24 million in housing investment across a number of programs, including \$6.5 million in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
 - A \$4 million investment in new strategies that will continue to build community trust and ensure public safety.
 - A \$1.2 million investment to protect and support the constitutional rights of every single qualified voter in the City of Minneapolis
- To learn more about the budget or the process and to give feedback, visit budget.minneapolismn.gov
- 5) In September I received a very disturbing letter dated September 21 from Hennepin County Sheriff Richard Stanek outlining the Hennepin County Jail's close cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security and its Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) division. It appears to confirm some of our worst fears about what has been happening at the County Jail for years now and I believe it should give us cause to reconsider, renegotiate and potentially terminate the contract the City of Minneapolis has with them to serve as our jail. You can find the full text from the letter here <http://secondward.blogspot.com/2017/10/letter-from-hennepin-county-sheriffs.html>.
- 6) The City began curb-to-curb sweeping and leaf collection on streets throughout the city on Tuesday, October 17. During the four weeks of the comprehensive fall street sweep, crews will clean about 1,000 miles of city streets. To make sure the sweepers can do the best job possible, temporary “No Parking” signs will be posted at least 24 hours in advance so streets will be clear of cars when they're swept. The first signs will be posted Monday, Oct. 16, and sweeping will begin the next day. Anyone who parks on the street will need to follow posted parking rules or their cars may be ticketed and towed. In addition to the signs the City now uses social media, robo-calls and an interactive website to push out information about when your street needs to be cleared of cars for cleaning. See www.facebook.com/cityofminneapolis, www.twitter.com/CityMinneapolis, and www.minneapolismn.gov/streetsweeping. The fall street sweep takes four weeks, and visitors to the website will be able to find out which week their street is scheduled to be swept. Then, on the weekend before each of the four weeks, the schedule for the upcoming week will be broken down to show which day of the week streets are scheduled to be swept.
- 7) I thank everyone who attending the community meeting I hosted on the proposed Zero Waste plan, along with Council Member Warsame, at Matthews Park in September. We got valuable insight that we will be incorporating, along with all the input we have gathered throughout September, into additions and changes to the draft before presenting it to the Council for consideration in November. Once approved, I hope to begin implementation early next year. The purpose of this plan is to help reduce waste and reach our goals to recycle and compost 50% of our overall waste stream by 2020 and 80% by 2030. You can download the draft plan, complete an online survey and get more information at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/mayor/ZWM/index.htm>
- 8) 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.