

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Seward, March 28, 2018

Cam's Next Office Hours:

Monday, April 2, 9:30-11:00am, Birchwood Cafe

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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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- 1) Comprehensive Plan Draft
- 2) Ward 2 Mpls 2040 Comprehensive Plan Community Meeting
- 3) Conduct on Premises
- 4) State Efforts to Preempt Waste Regulations
- 5) Department Head Appointments
- 6) Extend the Greenway Campaign
- 7) Temporary Election Jobs
- 8) Spring Street Sweeping Begins April 17
- 9) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) A detailed electronic draft of the City's Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan was released on March 22. This starts a phase of extensive review and community engagement that will likely lead to further changes in the plan before a final draft is presented to the Council for consideration and approval in December. The plan is a draft framework of interdependent policies, topics, actions steps and maps intended to drive a citywide conversation about how Minneapolis will manage growth and change over the next two decades so all residents benefit. In the draft report, policies are organized under 14 goals the City Council adopted in 2017, and also under 10 topic areas. It calls for changes to traditional land use and zoning practices that would allow a greater diversity and density of housing in all neighborhoods, including small-scale multi-family buildings throughout Ward 2 residential areas, with small 1-4 unit building allowed on traditional sized lots and 1 to 2.5 story multifamily buildings above 4 units on a limited number of combined lots, and larger, taller apartments allowed on transit corridors and near stations. The proposal also recommends elimination of minimum off-street parking requirements citywide, creates four new categories of commercial uses and prohibits new heavy industrial uses while preserving land for quality living-wage production and processing jobs. Comments will be collected at public meetings as well as online through July 22, 2018. That feedback will be taken into consideration as City staff revise the plan for City Council consideration. Comments can be made at minneapolis2040.com or shared on Twitter: #Mpls2040 @Mpls2040. Please take some time to review the draft here <https://www.minneapolis2040.com/> and share your feedback with me and others.
- 2) To help me better share the plan, gather feedback and understand your viewpoints, I will be convening a Ward 2 community meeting on the draft plan on **Thursday 7-9pm, April 26** at St. Francis Cabrini Church at 1500 E Franklin Ave. Please join us <https://www.facebook.com/events/211830769401694/>
- 3) In response to the concerns about evictions, Council Members Cunningham, Ellison and I have begun the work of amending our Conduct on Premises ordinance. We want to ensure that it is effective in helping landlords manage tenant behavior but not force, or even encourage evictions, when they are not necessary or justified.

- 4) The state legislature is poised pass a law that would preempt and revoke our local authority to enforce and pass laws regulating waste and packaging in Minneapolis. This would nullify our popular and successful “green to go” food container ordinance that did so much to reduce the amount toxic polystyrene being burned at the downtown garbage burner. I invite and encourage people to join me in calling on the Governor and our Representatives to oppose this and other preemption bills, including HF 3606 that would prohibit the ability of local governments to enact rules regarding the management of packaging waste and would prohibit the usage of fees on carry out bags, and requiring sustainable to-go food containers. This retroactive bill would undo ordinances that have already passed in city governments like Minneapolis and St. Louis Park and preempt all Minnesota cities from passing their own ordinances on any single-use bag fee and recyclable or compostable to go food containers. This a step backwards for democracy as well as for the environment and human health. On Wednesday, March 28 the MN House of Representatives committee Government Operations and Elections Policy will hear the bill HF 3606. Governor Dayton can be reached at 651-201-3400, and 800-657-3717
- 5) The Council is in the process of considering appointments or reappointments of the directors for our major departments: Assessor, Coordinator, Civil Rights, Community Planning and Economic Development, Fire, Health, Public Works, Attorney, and Regulatory Services. So far the Mayor has nominated and the Executive Committee has recommended 5 people for appointment or reappointment: David Frank for Community Planning and Economic Development, Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde for Coordinator, Patrick Todd for Assessor, Robin Hutcheson for Director of Public Works and Susan Segal for City Attorney. The Assessor and Public Works appointments were approved with my support by the Council on March 9th. On March 23rd, we approved the Coordinator appointment, and with me as the lone dissenting vote, the Council also approved the reappointment of the City Attorney.
- 6) There will be a public kickoff for the Extend the Greenway Campaign on **Thursday, April 5**, from 5:30 - 7:30, at Anne Sullivan community school on the Greenway (3100 E 28th St, Minneapolis, MN 55406). The purpose of the campaign is to extend the Midtown Greenway over the Mississippi River and through Saint Paul. For more information, contact Soren Jensen at Soren@midtowngreenway.org
- 7) The City is planning to hire around 50 individuals to support the administration of the election this year. Work may begin as early as May and run through the November 6 General Election. From March 16 – March 30 applications will be taken for one Warehouse Supervisor, and 2 Assistant Election Judge Schedulers. From April 16 – April 30 applications will be taken for a Poll Book Supervisor. From April 23 – May 7 openings will be posted for 6 Absentee Voting Supervisors, 2 Assistant Election Judge Trainer, 4 Warehouse Staff; and from May 4 – May 18 for 34 Absentee Voting Election Support Specialist. When available, job postings can be found at <http://vote.minneapolismn.gov/judges/seasonal>
- 8) Spring street cleaning will begin April 17 and run for approximately four weeks. Please look for temporary “No Parking” signs posted in advance to make sure streets are clear of parked vehicles. Drivers need to follow street sweeping parking rules or they may have their cars ticketed and towed to the Minneapolis Impound Lot. In addition to “No Parking” signs and phone calls to residents , people can use the City’s website to find out when the sweeping crews are coming through their neighborhoods. By the Friday before the first week of the sweep, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping and click on “street sweeping schedule lookup” to find out which week a street is scheduled to be swept.
- 9) A number of board and commission positions are open for City Council and mayor appointments this spring. Visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for more information and to apply.