

## Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Longfellow, 6-21-18

**Cam's Next Longfellow/Cooper Office Hours:  
Monday, June 25, 9:30-11:00am  
East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St**

### **Cam Gordon**

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<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2>  
<http://secondward.blogspot.com/>  
[www.facebook.com/camgordonward2](http://www.facebook.com/camgordonward2)

*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.*

If you need this material translated or in an alternative format, please contact [NCR@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:NCR@minneapolismn.gov) or 612- 673-3737 (673-2157 TTY/VOICE)

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) Minnehaha Academy – North Campus Reconstruction
- 2) Ketamine
- 3) 311 Now Text-Capable
- 4) MPD Stops Marijuana Stings
- 5) Comprehensive Plan
- 6) City Purchase of Renewable Electricity
- 7) State of the City
- 8) Tobacco 21 Passes
- 9) Dockless Bike Share
- 10) Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Housing
- 11) Openings on Boards and Commissions

1) Following several modifications to the original proposal, on May 25th the City Council voted unanimously to approve the amended Minnehaha Academy reconstruction project. The approved plan included several conditions, some added at the Planning Commission meeting and some at the Council, that are intended to help address community concerns about height, placement of the new buildings, traffic, parking, birds safety, tree loss, habitat preservation, light pollution, and protection of any potential historical resources. On June 4 there was an open-to-the-public Project Informational Meeting and work will be commencing this summer and over the year with hopes of having the new buildings completed by September 2019. Having a school in a mostly residential urban neighborhood near a unique national recreation area and natural treasure poses burdens, inconveniences and risks. By listening to one another and considering all perspectives, I hope that we have addressed the most serious concerns. I want to thank everyone who contacted my office about this, on every side. I believe that this level of engagement helped make it a better project, and reduced the impacts that near neighbors were most concerned about. For more details on the City process and approved plans and conditions visit <https://www.facebook.com/camgordonward2/posts/964392330389793> <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00589> . For more information on the construction phase visit [www.minnehaharebuilds.com](http://www.minnehaharebuilds.com)

- 2) I have significant concerns about the revelation that the Minneapolis Police Department has been participating with Hennepin County Medical Center staff on giving ketamine – a powerful sedative that has multiple illegal uses – to members of the public without their knowledge or consent. I applaud our Civil Rights department for their work on a report about this serious issue. I am very supportive of the Council's directions this week to empower Civil Rights to finish this report, and to do a third-party assessment of this report after it is finished.
- 3) I am happy to announce that as of Monday, June 11th texting will be an option for reporting complaints, request services or asking questions by texting 311TXT. (311898). This will provide an alternative, especially important for those with speaking or hearing impairments who will no longer have to rely the antiquated TTY/TDD system.

- 4) Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo announced Thursday that he is discontinuing stings targeting low-level marijuana sales at the request of Mayor Jacob Frey. It came in the wake of a report prepared by the Hennepin County Public Defender's office that between January 24 and May 24, police in sting operations had arrested 47 people for the sale of small amounts of marijuana, 46 of whom were black.  
<http://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-cops-halt-marijuana-stings-after-almost-all-arrested-were-black/484876151/>
- 5) Minneapolis 2040 comprehensive draft that has so far been provided on the web site in an interactive format, with draft plan policies organized by both goals and topics, is now also available as in a format searchable and printable PDF format. The PDF document can be found at <https://minneapolis2040.com/pdf/> and includes the same content found on the interactive web site at <https://minneapolis2040.com/>.
- 6) In 2017 the City Council approved executing a contract with Xcel Energy for 17.8 million kWh from the Renewable Connect program where the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) electricity generated by wind and solar are assigned to the City. At that time the maximum purchase was capped at 17.8 million, but in May that was increased, so last month we modified that approval and authorized executing two new 5-year contracts totaling 42.2 million kWh. The 17.8 million kWh from that previous contract will be re-assigned under a new 10-year contract. By 2019, with the total 60.2 million kWh of Renewable Connect electricity, the City will raise the amount of renewable electricity to 85% of its annual electricity usage. This will help us reach the City's goal of 100% renewable electricity for municipal operations by 2023.
- 7) The Mayor gave his first state of the City address on May 24. There he emphasized the need for affordable housing, inclusive economic opportunities and better police community relations. He announced a new policy initiative that would provide housing vouchers for some 320 Minneapolis Public School students and their families who have no, or unstable, housing and a new policy where Police squad cars will be outfitted with language – in both Spanish and English – detailing an undocumented person's rights as far as they relate to Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE). You can watch a video of the address at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywrlS7HrtSQ&feature=youtu.be> and read the text at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/mayor/news/speeches/2018StateoftheCity>
- 8) In May the City Council approved the ordinance amendment that will prohibit the sale of tobacco products to anyone who is under the age of 21. It will go into effect October 1. This ordinance came about thanks to the great work and passion of a number of great advocates, and was authored by Twelfth Ward Council Member Andrew Johnson.
- 9) The Council has amended our Bike Sharing ordinance and contract with Nice Ride Minnesota to allow them to test and phase in a new "dockless" bike sharing model this summer for full implementation next year I worked to ensure that that the service would be available throughout the city and that the ability to rent a bike would not depend on a smart phone application. You can find their business plan at [https://www.niceridemn.org/\\_asset/jymx07/Revised-NRM-Business-Plan-Update043018.pdf](https://www.niceridemn.org/_asset/jymx07/Revised-NRM-Business-Plan-Update043018.pdf)
- 10) The Council has approved a resolution I authored that will establish a new Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Housing to advise city staff, the City Council and mayor on matters related to housing policy and development, rental licensing, and other areas which affect the accessibility, maintenance, and development of stable, quality, sustainable, healthy, and affordable housing in the City of Minneapolis. I consider this a key element to improving our housing policy in the City and supporting the work of our new Housing Policy and Development Committee that I chair. The committee will include 12 resident members appointed through an open process. For more details see <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00588>. I expect the application process for this to begin later this summer. Let me know if you are interested or have questions.
- 11) A number of board and commission positions are open for City Council and mayor appointments. Visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm> for more information and to apply.