

# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Seward, April 25, 2018

## Cam's Next Office Hours:

**Monday, May 7, 9:30-11:00am, Birchwood Cafe**

### Cam Gordon

City Council Member  
Second Ward

350 South 5th Street - Room 301M  
Minneapolis MN 55415

Office 612-673-2202  
Fax 612-673-3250  
Cell 612-296-0579

cam.gordon@minneapolismn.gov

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

***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 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, llame 612-673-3737

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

- 1) Ward 2 Comprehensive Plan Meeting
- 2) Minneapolis 2040 Open Houses
- 3) State Legislators Aim to Void Local Environmental Laws
- 4) Spring Street Sweeping
- 5) Housing Valuation Concerns.
- 6) River Gorge Advisory Committee
- 7) New Polling Place for Precinct 2-9
- 8) Tobacco 21
- 9) Renewable Electricity Resolution
- 10) Block Leader Training
- 11) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) Please join me at the **Ward 2 Meeting** on the **Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan** draft on **Thursday 7-9pm, April 26** at St. Francis Cabrini Church at 1500 E Franklin Ave. Planning staff will be available to present an overview of the plan and there will be plenty of time for questions, comments and discussion. The plan, Minneapolis 2040, covers topics such as housing, job access, new building designs and street use. Please take some time to review the complete draft here <https://www.minneapolis2040.com/> You can find a printable version of some information, including land use maps of the Ward 2 area at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/policydocument/wcmssp-210263.pdf>
- 2) There will be one more open houses focused on the draft of the City's comprehensive plan held from 5:30-8pm Thursday, **May 31** at the Powderhorn Recreation Center, 3400 15th Ave. S. The plan, Minneapolis 2040, covers topics such as housing, job access, new building designs and street use. Please take some time to review the complete draft here <https://www.minneapolis2040.com/> You can find a printable version of some information, including land use maps of the Ward 2 area at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/policydocument/wcmssp-210263.pdf>
- 3) The state legislature is poised to pass a law that would nullify our popular and successful "green to go" food container ordinance that has already done so much to reduce the amount of toxic polystyrene being burned at the downtown garbage burner. The bill is [HF 3606](#). If it passes the legislature I hope the Governor will veto it. Governor Dayton can be reached at 651-201-3400, and 800-657-3717.
- 4) **Spring street cleaning** begins **May 1** and runs for approximately four weeks. Look for temporary "No Parking" signs and follow street sweeping parking rules to avoid ticketed and towed. Warn your family and neighbors. Moving a car is relatively easy compared to the costs and inconveniences of having it ticketed and towed. We 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](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping) and click on "street

sweeping schedule lookup” to find out which week a street is scheduled to be swept.

- 5) Many Ward 2 property owners saw significant increases in home valuations this year. Since hearing concerns about this, I learned that the real estate market right now has very little inventory for sale and that buyers are offering full list price or more than list price for properties entering the market. The marketing time in Ward 2 in 2015 was 32 days, today the average days on market is 13 and it's not uncommon to see properties sell in 3-4 days. The Assessor's Office reports that of Seward's 1032 parcels saw an average increase of 18.8% with 37 sales and a median price of \$ 276,075. Longfellow's 1212 properties saw an average increase in EMV of 15.7%, 47 sales and a median sales price of \$244,707. Cooper's 1278 parcels saw a 9.8% average increase, 52 sales and a median sales price of \$273,071. In total, for all Ward 2's 5136 parcels we experienced an average increase of 13.2% in estimated market value and the median sales prices for the 194 of them that were sold was \$268,820. In total, for all Ward 2's 5136 parcels we experienced an average increase of 13.2% in estimated market value and the median sales prices for the 194 of them that were sold was \$268,820. It is also worth noting that, while important to it, the valuation does not determine the property taxes and it is possible for your value to go up and for your property taxes to go down. For more information on the assessment process, how it relates to property taxes and how to appeal your value see <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/assessor/index.htm> .
- 6) I have appointed Gabriel Konar-Steenberg, from Seward, to serve as the Ward 2 appointee on the Park Board's River Gorge Community Advisory Committee. The Park Board is drafting a Master Plan for this 132 acre land area along the east and west banks of the Mississippi's only true gorge. The area includes Bohemian Flats, East River Flats Park, East River Parkway, Franklin Terrace Dog Park, Riverside Park, and West River Parkway. Gabriel joins some 20 other committee members who will meet from now until November to help the Park Board develop the Mississippi Gorge Regional Park Master Plan. My thanks goes to Gabriel for his willingness to serve and to all those who applied.
- 7) Elections staff are recommending that we relocate the 2-9 precinct polling place from the Oren Gateway Center to Matthews Park. Matthews Park (which lies just outside the precinct but well within the 1-mile statutory limit) has space, and better parking. Matthews Park is further away from some of the residents of the precinct however and I am interested in hearing any concerns people have before I also recommend that this change be made.
- 8) **On May 14** there will be a public hearing and committee bvvote hearing on an ordinance amendment that would to ban the sale of tobacco products (including nicotine vaporizing devices) sales to anyone under 21. Five other Minnesota cities have already passed similar legislation. I support this proposal and commend Council Member Johnson and Ellison for bringing it forward.
- 9) The Council will consider a resolution on Friday that I coauthored with Council Members Steve Fletcher and Jeremy Schroeder that commits the City to reaching goals of 100% renewable electricity for both the City enterprise and the broader community. The resolution will commit us to using 100% renewable electricity as an enterprise by 2025, and to reach 100% renewable electricity for the broader community by 2030. This builds on the work of our Climate Action Plan and includes a direction to our Sustainability staff to create an implementation plan that will allow us to make progress towards reaching this goal. I believe and hope that our resolution will help drive the kind of real, concrete change that we need to reach this important and aggressive goal.. I want to thank the advocates who have put this on the City's agenda and have helped vet this resolution to make it as strong as possible: the Sierra Club Northstar Chapter, the Community Environmental Advisory Commission, the Energy Vision Advisory Committee of the Clean Energy Partnership, and more recently a youth organization called iMatter. <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00410>
- 10) The 3<sup>rd</sup> precinct police are offering Block Leader Training **Monday June 11** from 6:30 – 8pm. Block clubs offer a great tool for crime prevention and community building. The training will help you learn what block clubs do, how to organize your neighbors so you can have a direct impact on preventing crime and be prepared to work with neighbors and the police if there is a problem on your block. For more contact [Karen.notsch@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Karen.notsch@minneapolismn.gov).
- 11) 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.