

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Southeast Como Neighborhood August 8, 2018

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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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**Cam's Next Como Office Hours:
Monday, August 13, 9:30-11:00am
Black: Coffee and Waffles, 1500 Como Ave SE**

- 1) Vote August 14
- 2) Low Power Vehicles
- 3) Energy Benchmarking
- 4) 10th Avenue Bridge
- 5) Police Department Charter Amendment.
- 6) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) There will be a Primary Election held on **Tuesday, August 14** this year with Early Voting in the primary running through Monday, August 13, Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30pm, except on Monday, August 13, when it closes at 5pm. Minneapolis voters will be able to cast ballots for the primary races for U.S. Senator, U.S. Senator, special election, United States Representative (District 5), Governor/Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Minnesota State Representative (Districts 59A, 59B, 60B, 62A and 62B), County Commissioner (Districts 2 and 4), County Sheriff and Minneapolis School Board at-large members (two seats). Voters can bring a marked-up sample ballot as a reference to the voting booth when completing their official ballots. Find sample ballots at: www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot . For more information visit www.vote.minneapolismn.gov , www.facebook.com/votempls and www.twitter.com/votempls.
- 2) In response to new businesses wanting to rent out electric scooters that use city sidewalks and boulevards area, the Council has voted to create a license type for "low power vehicles," and to authorize shared scooter operations through a pilot program that will end November 30. This will allow the City to better understand and evaluate shared scooter operations, and chart a longer-term path forward with the potential re-introduction of shared scooter operations in the Spring of 2019. The agreement terms will allow the licensed companies to operate pilot programs for shared scooter operations in City right of way but the ultimate discretion and control of right of way will remain with the City. Selection to participate will be based on the content of an extensive application and the City, through our Public Works Director will have the right to suspend or revoke any license at any time for any reason that furthers the public good. It establishes maximum number of scooters of 400 scooters that will be allowed in City right of way, which can be divided among multiple applicants but the Public Works Director may increase this number based on meeting other provisions, usage criteria and data including distribution, and/or equity program and benefits. The city can also reduce this number based on users' improper operational or parking behavior. It also requires shared scooters to be self-locking, and parked in a location which does not impede pedestrian travel. The City will have the authority to impound shared scooters based on improper parking, and a license fee will be required. You can find more information at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00883>

- 3) The Council has directed Sustainability staff to work with staff from the Regulatory Services, Health, and Community Planning and Economic Development departments to come up with a set of proposals on residential energy disclosure. We have had a successful energy benchmarking ordinance in place for commercial buildings for several years, and these proposals would broaden energy disclosure to residences. Some of the potential requirements I know are being considered are energy benchmarking in large multifamily buildings, past energy use disclosure in smaller rental buildings, and inclusion of energy performance information in the required Truth in Sale of Housing (TISH) inspections that happen with home sales. I look forward to working more on these topics, which I believe could help us reduce carbon emissions while reducing the energy cost burden on Minneapolis residents.
- 4) The Council has approved the layout for the 10th Avenue Bridge rehabilitation project and the City staff will move ahead with plans to renovate the 10th Ave Bridge that has needed repair for several years now. An open house about the project was held in June and construction will begin in the Spring of 2019, and will continue into 2020. The proposed project will repair areas of significant deterioration under the deck and replace the deck on the arch span segment. In addition to and in coordination with the bridge rehabilitation, the existing steel water main will be removed from the bridge structure and a new water main will be installed under the Mississippi River. The new layout will reduce the traffic lanes from four to two, add a 12-foot sidewalk on the west side of the roadway, add a 13-foot protected bikeway on the east side, and widen the existing sidewalk on the east side from eight to ten feet. The sidewalks on both sides of the bridge would be raised six-inches above the roadway and the bikeway is proposed to be separated by a 6-inch tall and two-foot wide concrete curb. The proposed layout fills the existing half-mile sidewalk gap on the west of the bridge and the proposed bikeway design is compatible with the University of Minnesota Protected Bikeways Project layout. An ornate concrete railing will be added at the sidewalks edge replicating the bridge's original railing with new light poles added along the railing. Minimal work is expected at the south and north approach segments where existing additional turn lanes will remain. You can find the design and other details at <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00797>
- 5) On August 8th, after the Council approved referring a ballot initiative that could have amended the Minneapolis Charter provision having to do with mayoral control of the police department, to give the Council and Mayor shared policy-making authority and oversight of the police department, the Charter Commission voted to study the Charter Amendment preproposal throughout the summer and fall. This effectively means that there is no way it can be placed on the ballot this year. While I support this proposal, and remain convinced that the charter provision that puts the supervision of the police department almost entirely in the mayor's hands needs to be changed, I believe that their action may still make that, or some other positive reform, possible in the future. In their decision not to respond to the Council on a short time line and take the full 150 days allowed them by state law to consider the proposal, the Charter Commission also passed a motion that creates a work group to review the current management of the police department and current roles of the Council and the Mayor; review any State law or regulatory restraints or requirements regarding law enforcement and the management of the police department; analyze and review best practices for police department management through study of comparable-sized jurisdictions operating under a Mayor/Council. They also directed staff to organize a series of at least three public hearings to gather public input/feedback on the proposal, with the first being coordinated in conjunction with the Charter Commission's regular meeting in September at City Hall, with additional public hearings scheduled in September and October to be in North Minneapolis and South Minneapolis at times and locations convenient to the public. The task force to report on its progress periodically, at least once each quarter, with a final report with any recommendations due to the full Charter Commission no later than January 2, 2019. Clearly this critically important discussion about how to better oversee and manage police and police policy will continue. I look forward to it and to continue to explore other ways to improve police policy and safety in our city.
- 6) 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.