

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Prospect Park, 7-23-18

**Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:
T Rex Cookie Café 3338 University Ave SE
Monday, August 20, 9:30-11am**

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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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an alternative format, please contact
NCR@minneapolismn.gov or 612- 673-
3737 (673-2157 TTY/VOICE)

People who are deaf or hard of hearing
can use a relay service to call 311 at
612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-
2157 or 612-673-2626.

Para asistencia 612-673-2700

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612-673-3500.

Items:

- 1) Art and Architecture Building Development
- 2) City Charter Amendment on Authority over Police
- 3) Low Power Vehicles
- 4) National Night Out
- 5) Crash at Huron and Fulton
- 6) Energy Disclosure Staff Direction
- 7) 10th Ave Bridge Renovation
- 8) 2018 Primary and General Election
- 9) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) This Thursday, July 26, the Council's Zoning and Planning committee will hear two appeals of the Planning Commission's decision to approve the Art and Architecture/Vermilion project. There will be a public hearing on these appeals. I am aware of the formal position taken by the Prospect Park Association regarding this project, and that will be one of the key considerations I bring to the discussion.
- 2) The Council has voted 10-2 on July 20 to introduce an ordinance that, if approved by the Council, will put a proposed charter amendment on the ballot this November 6. If approved by the voters, it would amend Article VII Section 7.3 of the City Charter, which pertains to the authority of the Mayor over the Police Department, to give the Mayor and City Council shared authority over the Department. As written now this Charter provision puts the supervision of the police department solely in the mayor's hands, distancing it from the City Council. Unlike any other City department, the mayor is "vested with all the powers of said city connected with and incident to the establishment, maintenance, appointment, removal, discipline, control and supervision of its police force..." It is this arrangement that has made it particularly difficult for council members to fully engage and influence how we manage and assist our police officers. The Council cannot direct staff, set policy about police behavior or institute promising management practices, when the Charter gives the Council no authority over the department, except to approve the appointment of the police chief and the department's budget. This change would simplify and better align our organizational structure by making the supervision of the police department consistent with that of the other departments. A joint meeting of the Intergovernmental Relations and Public Safety and Emergency Management committees will take public comment about this topic on **Wednesday, August 1** at 2:30pm in Council Chambers, room 317 of City Hall, 350 S 5th St.
- 3) The Council has voted to create a license type for "low power vehicles," and will be discussing a pilot program to allow hundreds of battery-operated scooters throughout the city, available for people to rent with a mobile phone app. They are subject to City requirements, such as not blocking sidewalks.

- 4) This year, National Night Out is Tuesday, **August 7**. Registering a National Night Out event and applying to close a street or alley is a single online process. People can also register their events and apply for street closure by calling 311. The deadline to apply for a no cost street or alley closure is **July 24**, from the 24th to the 30th the cost is \$100 and July 30th is the last day to apply. As with many past National Night Outs, Minneapolis was ranked No. 1 among all U.S. cities larger than 300,000 people in 2017. Find out more about National Night Out at www.minneapolismn.gov/nno.
- 5) As you may have heard, a person on a bike was hit at the intersection of Huron and Fulton last week, and was listed as in serious condition. This is the fourth serious bike/car crash in the past few weeks, including two fatalities, one of which was in Seward. I will continue working to make our streets safer for everyone, especially the most vulnerable road users. Please take care when you walk, bike, or drive, and especially if you're driving, please slow down.
- 6) On Monday, July 23, I 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.
- 7) 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://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00797>
- 8) There will be a Primary Election held on **Tuesday, August 14** and a General Election held on November 6. People can also Vote by Mail, and vote Early In-Person at the Early Vote Center at 217 S Third Street. This year Early Voting in the primary at the Early Vote Center running from Friday June 29, to Monday, August 13, Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30pm, except on Monday, August 13, when it closes at 5pm. Find sample ballots for all 132 Minneapolis precincts here: www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot. For more information visit www.vote.minneapolismn.gov, www.facebook.com/votempls and www.twitter.com/votempls. State law allows voters to bring materials into the polls to help complete their ballots — and this include a sample ballot. By downloading, printing and marking on your sample ballots that is customized to your specific ward and precinct you will have a reference to make voting easier when filling out your official ballots. Find sample ballots for all 132 Minneapolis precincts here: www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot. For more information visit www.vote.minneapolismn.gov, www.facebook.com/votempls and www.twitter.com/votempls.
- 9) 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.