

Second Ward September 2018 E-newsletter

News from Cam Gordon

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<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ward2>

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2019 Budget. In August, Mayor Frey presented his 2019 proposed budget. He is recommending a City budget of \$1.6 billion, which is \$139.1 million (or 9.8%) more than this year's budget. This includes an increase of 5.63% in the property tax levy for the City and its independent boards, raising the total amount levied by \$18.7 million, from \$331.2 million in 2018 to \$349.9 million in 2019. This levy increase will not mean a tax increase for everyone because the total tax base increased by more than 10%. The recommended budget includes \$40 million to support affordable housing in 2019 as well as expanded funding for some programs I fought hard to get and keep in the budget in years past. This includes funding of \$660,000 for the Group Violence Intervention program; increased funding of \$597,000 for the Business Technical Assistance; over \$1 million towards energy and climate change programs; added funds for the co-responder program; funds to add a staff to the Division of Race and Equity, and more money for the Safe Routes to School Program and protected bikeways. The Mayor is also proposing to fund new initiatives, including \$50,000 to support the opioid task-force; \$200,000 for the development of a municipal ID program; \$350,000 to ensure a fair 2020 Census; over \$1 million in increased funding to the Police Department to 'civilianize' 8 positions which frees up sworn officers and allows for more efficient work by specially trained civilians; and, \$200,000 to the Civil Rights Labor Standards Enforcement Division for expanded outreach and investigators to ensure that workers are paid their fair wage. More information and the complete budget is available online at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/budget/>.

Budget Calendar. Before a final 2019 budget is approved on December 5th, there will be a series of meetings and presentations, including approval of the maximum levy by the Board of Estimate and Taxation and public hearings before the Council. You can see the full calendar at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/budget/budget-calendar> and make comments online at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/budget/budget-comments>. The times for public comment are the Public Hearing on the maximum property tax levy on **September 12** before the Board of Estimate and Taxation at 5:05 pm; public comment before the City Council on **November 1 at 9:00 am** to noon; a Public Hearing before the City Council on **November 28 at 6:05 pm**; and, the final Public Hearing before the Council on **December 5** at 6:05 pm. All the budget meetings and hearings will take place in the City Council Chambers, room 317, in City Hall, 350 So 5th Street.

Primary Election Results. Minneapolis voters set a record for the highest number of voters voting in a primary election. A total of 101,266 people voted and this is the highest turnout in a primary since 1968, as far back as our electronic records go. Results are posted at <https://electionresults.sos.state.mn.us/20180814>. Special congratulations to Second Ward resident, State Representative Ilhan Omar for securing her party's position on the ballot in

November. I also offer my congratulations to Mohamud Noor and Joseph Patino who won the DFL and Republican primaries for State Representative for 60B (which includes much of the second ward); to Peter McLaughlin and Angela Conley who won the nonpartisan primary runoff for County Commission of District 4, to Dave Hutch and Rich Stanek who won the nonpartisan primary runoff for Sheriff, and all the candidates who made it through the primary. I am also grateful for all the candidates who ran for office, including those who will not be going on the General Election. It is vital to the health of our democracy to have people seeking office, campaigning and contributing to the community discourse as they did during the primary campaign.

General Election. The General Election will be held **Tuesday, November 6**, with Early Voting going from **Friday, September 21 to Monday, November 5**, Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30pm. On Election Days the Polls are open from 7am to 8pm. The Council has approved operating up to five Early Voting Centers, including the downtown site at 217 South 3rd Street, that was operating for the primary. The additional locations will be open from October 30 to November 5. When we know the locations soon and I am one to be located on or near the University of Minnesota campus. 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.

Elections Jobs. The City needs temporary election judges for the 2018 General Election. Second-language fluency in Spanish, Hmong, Oromo, or Somali particularly desired. You can fill out an application at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5kG8utWbCZyKz2BiO43MfvjZBPU9vtyznbVO5K2hoB4QHVw/viewform>.

Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan. I thank everyone who has provided feedback, or otherwise been involved, in discussing and considering the first draft of the 2040 plan. This summer the various City Council Committees reviewed the draft policies related to the work of each committee and now planning staff are preparing a new draft to submit to the City Council in late September. The first draft is available in a searchable and printable PDF format at <https://minneapolis2040.com/pdf/> as well as in an electronic web site version at <https://minneapolis2040.com/>. I will be convening a Ward 2 Town Hall Meeting on the next draft and pushing for more community engagement when it is released and well before the Council approves a final draft in December.

Federal Immigration Family Separation Policy. The Council has authorized the City Attorney to join a local government amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs in the case of Washington State v. United States to challenge the constitutionality of the family separation policy and President Trump's new executive order meant to replace it.

Paid Parental Leave. The City, with my enthusiastic support, has approved increasing the period for use of paid leave to from 12 weeks to 6 months following the birth or adoption of a child.

Capital Improvement Debt Charter Amendment. On August 31 the Council unanimously approved a long overdue charter amendment to Article IX, Section 9.4 Debt. This provision that put a 15 million dollar limit on borrowing for capital expenditures was passed by voters in the 1970s as an effort (that proved to be ineffective) to prevent public spending on professional sports stadiums. This amendment that passed in August increases the limit to reflect the present value of the 15 million and includes an escalator to maintain the present value based on the United States Consumer Price Index. For 2018, the new limit would be approximately \$80 million. The proposed Charter amendment would also grant express authority for the City to use more than one approved method to finance a project, allowing the City to combine financing of projects from multiple sources, including net debt bonds and other approved method for incurring debt to finance projects.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The City's 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update and 2016 Commercial Building Energy Benchmarking Policy Annual Report have been released. They reveal that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from citywide activities decreased 20.4% in 2016 compared to the 2006 baseline. Increases in emissions from natural gas consumption, solid waste, and wastewater were offset by decreases in emissions from electricity consumption and on-road transportation. Emissions from electricity consumption are the largest share of the City's inventory, but will likely be surpassed by natural gas in the years ahead as more electricity is generated by renewable sources. Our commercial building benchmarking and disclosure ordinance that requires large commercial buildings to report energy and water performance data to the City annually seems to be having a positive effect. In 2017, 434 properties disclosed energy consumption, representing approximately 16% of the City's greenhouse gas emissions. To speed up our plan to also get information on residential properties I moved, and the committee Council approved, a direction to staff to prepare a comprehensive set of energy disclosure proposals for residential buildings in Minneapolis as well. You can find more here <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00849>.

Clean Energy Partnership 2017 Report. The 2017 annual report has been published for the Clean Energy Partnership. It reviews highlights, work plan activities and the 8 metrics approved by the partnership board to track progress. The most significant progress appears to be led by the City. While I believe that partnership still holds promise, I have little doubt that much more progress would be possible if the utilities were publicly owned and operated. You can see the report here https://mplscleanenergypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/2017-CEP-Annual-Report_FINAL_print-version1.pdf.

City Fleet Electrification. The Council has authorized a Memorandum of Understanding with Northern States Power (Xcel Energy) on fleet electrification and the submittal of a grant application to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, for \$33,000, to buy and install electric vehicle charging stations at city facilities.

CenterPoint “Renewable” Natural Gas Proposal. Centerpoint energy has filed a petition with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for a Renewable Natural Gas program. The filing proposes a five-year pilot for a voluntary green tariff offering that allows customers to purchase natural gas from “renewable” sources for an additional price. The program would use methane gas produced from biomass sources that would be added to the existing system of pipelines. If the MPUC approves the pilot by January 2019, CenterPoint customers would be able to enroll as early as Spring 2019. A presentation of the proposal will be provided at EVAC’s September 17th Meeting, 9:30-11:30am, at Great Plains Institute (2801 21st Ave S, Suite 240, Minneapolis). For additional information, visit CenterPoint Energy’s webpage at <https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/residential/in-your-community/renewable-natural-gas-program?sa=mn> or view the Filing of Docket No.: G-008/M-18-547 at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/edockets/searchDocuments.do?method=showPoup&documentId=%7bC0ED6665-0000-CE15-A557-3D08289216D1%7d&documentTitle=20188-145946-01> .

Transportation Plan Update. The City is updating its 10-year Transportation Action Plan to meet the transportation vision and policies outlined in our draft Comprehensive Plan. The Transportation Action Plan will foster safe and efficient transportation options, and guide the election and design of transportation projects over the next 10 years. It will also improve equity in the system, help address climate change challenges, and support our Complete Streets Policy and commitment to Vision Zero. You can take a survey and learn more at http://minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/gompls/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Police Department Charter Amendment. In August, after the Council approved referring a ballot initiative that (if approved by the voters) could have amended the Minneapolis Charter to give the Council and Mayor a more balanced and shared policymaking authority and oversight of the police department, the Charter Commission voted to study the proposal through the remainder of this year. So, it will not be on the ballot this year. In their decision not to respond to the Council on a short time line they created a work group to review the current oversight in Minneapolis, State laws on police oversight and practices in other jurisdictions. They will also hold at least three public hearings to gather public input/feedback on the proposal. A final report with any recommendations is due to the full Charter Commission no later than January 2, 2019.

Victim Advocate. I am very supportive of the decision by the Police Chief to hire a full-time victim advocate to work with sex-crime investigators. The advocate from the Sexual Violence Center will be embedded in the Sex Crimes Unit, which investigates accusations of abuse and assault. The advocate will accompany sex assault victims as they bring their cases to police, as the department already does with victims of domestic abuse. I am convinced that this unit needs substantial reform and improvement and can benefit greatly from additional resources http://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-police-to-hire-full-time-victim-advocate-to-work-with-sex-crimes-investigators/491557021/?om_rid=1993649609&om_mid=106251721

Violence Prevention. I have authored and the Council has unanimously approved a Resolution that will establish a new Violence Prevention Steering Committee to replace the Youth Violence Prevention Steering Committee. This will broaden the scope of the group and means that Violence (not just youth violence) is now clearly acknowledged and will be worked on, as a public health issue in the City. It will also help us better coordinate and support several major efforts underway by several departments to prevent violence in Minneapolis. It will serve as an advisory board to the City Council to advise the Council and Mayor on all matters related to violence reduction and prevention in Minneapolis and oversee the City's comprehensive violence prevention strategic plan and its implementation.

10 Days Violence Free. I am sponsoring a resolution in support of the Twin Cities Nonviolent collaborative's 10 Days Free From Violence that will go from September 21, the International Day of Peace, to September 30th. For more information about how to get involved visit <https://twincitiesnonviolent.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/Twin-CitiesNonviolent-135270583857949/>. #WeCanWagePeace

Grocery Store, Staple Foods, Ordinance. I am moving forward with plans to amend the City's Grocery Store ordinance that was significantly improved in 2014. This September we will get the results of a survey of stores and the findings of the U of M Staple Foods Ordinance research project (<http://storestudy.umn.edu/>). I will use both to inform the changes we make to this ordinance.

Business and Rental License Fee Increases. In August the Council got the results of a fee study I moved to have staff conduct as part of last year's budget approval because. Fees have not been increased in seven years. The goal of the study was to determine whether, and if so by how much, fees charged for business licensure, trades licensure, health inspections, environmental impacts, and housing rental licensure are out of line with what the City spends to regulate these. The results of study showed a substantial under-collection of revenues as compared to the cost of regulation in all categories. As a result, the Council approved increasing fees for the Business Licensing and Food-Lodging-Pools categories by 2%, and for Pollution Control Annual Registration by 10%. In addition, the Council approved raising all rental licenses and restructuring the rental housing tier system to more appropriately shift the revenue burden towards larger buildings, and those in Tier III (meaning those with more code violations), as these properties require more time and effort from City inspectors.
<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00847>

Tobacco Shops. In September the Council will consider a moratorium on the establishment and licensing of new tobaccos shops.

Scooter Sharing. In response to new businesses wanting to rent out electric scooters that use city sidewalks and boulevards, 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 agreements will allow licensed companies to operate pilot programs in City right of way as long as they are well managed, but will leave the ultimate discretion and control of right-of-way with the City. You can find more information at <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-00883>

Inclusionary Zoning. The Housing Policy and Development committee received a very informative report from Community Planning and Economic Development staff and the Grounded Solutions Network on implementing Inclusionary Zoning in Minneapolis. Inclusionary Zoning is a concept that requires a certain number or percentage of units in new developments to be affordable at a certain established level of affordability for a certain period of time. After receiving the report that determined such a requirement would be feasible in Minneapolis, the Council approved a staff direction to continue the work on this important topic. It directs staff to return in November with a recommended set of amendments to the City's Unified Housing Policy to support an inclusionary zoning ordinance; to prepare an interim Inclusionary Zoning ordinance, and a framework for a permanent Inclusionary Zoning ordinance. You can see the report here:

<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/1446/HPD%20committee%20presentation%2008.21.18.pdf>

New Housing Advisory Committee. Applications are now being taken to serve on the City's new Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Housing. The purpose of this committee is to advise the Departments of Community Planning and Economic Development, Regulatory Services, Health, the Sustainability division of the City Coordinator's Office, and 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 Minneapolis. For an application and more information visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards/openings/WCMSP-213737>.

Small and Medium Multifamily Land Banking Pilot Program. The Council has approved a new program that could help stabilize affordable rents for tenants in duplexes and apartment buildings from 2 to 49 units. The new Small and Medium Multifamily Loan Pilot Program (SMMF Pilot) will use the \$1.9 million in the 2018 budget approved to preserve currently affordable housing with rehabilitation needs to preserve unsubsidized but affordable units and reduce tenant displacement. In the program, the City will identify and evaluate rental properties at risk of being sold and converted into expensive housing for possible acquisition, rehabilitation and management or resale to a community organization or tenant owned cooperative who will preserve it as affordable housing. The pilot will go for 3 years (pending continued funds) and is projected to help the City acquire and preserve up to 300 units.

Racism and Housing in Minneapolis. In August, an Exhibit, called Owing Up: Racism and Housing in Minneapolis, opened at the Hennepin History Museum at 2303 3rd Ave S, Minneapolis. Created by graduate students Denise Pike and Kacie Lucchini in the University of Minnesota's new Heritage Studies and Public History program, the exhibit focuses on the

history of racial discrimination and housing in Minneapolis and is part of a series of events marking the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. It costs \$5, \$3 for seniors or students and is free for members.

Homeless Street Outreach Contract. The City is soliciting proposals for Homeless Street Outreach Services. Approximately \$300,000 will be available annually for a provider to deliver street outreach services for a period of five years. The provider's contract would be evaluated annually for renewal based on performance. Eligible organizations should be 501(c)(3), not-for-profit, for profit, or governmental agencies serving Minneapolis residents. Prospective applicants may direct questions in writing only to Tiffany Glasper, Sr. Project Coordinator Tiffany.glasper@minneapolismn.gov. For more info see http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/cped_rfp

4d Pilot Initiative. Results of the 4d Pilot Initiative, approved in April, are now in. The program uses the state's Low Income Rental Classification (LIRC) tax status to preserve unsubsidized affordable housing properties with 10 units or more. With a LIRC the property tax rate is only 0.75% (reduced from 1.25%) for designated affordable units. In the pilot we received 22 applications with a total of 463 rent-restricted units and 10 applications with a total of 207 rent-restricted units were selected for the pilot initiative. The selected buildings range in size from 11 to 272 units, with most of the buildings containing 11-12 units. We did receive interest from owners of properties smaller than ten units. The City invested a total of \$2,180 (\$1,680 in application fees and \$500 in recording fees) plus the fiscal impact of granting a 40% reduction in property taxes to preserve the 207 affordable units for ten years. Two properties have scheduled free energy assessments and are strongly considering energy efficiency upgrades using \$50,000 in City franchise fee energy efficiency funds dedicated to 4d pilot participants. The Housing Policy and Development Committee will consider recommendations for a full program for 2019 in October that I hope includes eligibility of smaller units.

Minnesota Housing's 2019 Affordable Housing Plan. Minnesota Housing, the state agency that works with lenders to provide affordable home loans, has released a draft 2019 Affordable Housing Plan. They are seeking public comment on the plan, that can be found at <http://mnhousing.gov/wcs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1396903465722&pagename=External%2FPage%2FEXTStandardLayout>. It outlines initiatives and allocates resources for next year. Comments should be sent to mn.housing@state.mn.us by 2:30 p.m. on Friday, September 7.

Minneapolis Public Housing Ordinance. In July, the Council received a report on the City's legal relationship with the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. This quasi-independent entity was authorized by federal and state law and was created by a city ordinance that was last reviewed and amended in 1996. Some aspects of that ordinance are clearly out of date. In response to this, I will be drafting amendments to ordinance provisions related to the establishment and duties of the Public Housing Authority. I plan to take several months to engage stakeholders and community members before drafting amendments and setting a public hearing.

Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Vacancy. The City is currently seeking applicants to serve on the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) board. MPHA owns and manages over 5,000 apartments in 42 high-rise properties and over 700 non-high-rise family homes. The MPHA Board of Commissioners is the governing body of the Agency. Its members are appointed by the Mayor and the City Council to establish policy, oversee operations and insure compliance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. Members of the Board must live or work in the City of Minneapolis. Applications must be in by Friday, October 5, 2018. There are currently (5) vacancies. One is for a resident of a Public Housing High Rise and one is for a Resident of Public Housing in a Family Non-High-Rise housing. All seats are for 3 years terms beginning in January 2019. You can apply on your own behalf, nominate others for consideration, or inform the City Clerk's Office of someone to whom you'd like application materials to be sent. If interested, please see the application at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-119772.pdf>. Send completed applications to openappointments@minneapolismn.gov, or by fax: 612-673-3812, or mail to City Clerk Appointments, Room 304, 350 South Fifth Street Minneapolis, MN 55415-1382.

Affordable Housing Requirement Added to Brownfield Clean Up Grants. The City Council has approved revising the City's Housing Policy to eliminate the "pollution remediation exception" to the definition of the types of financial assistance that trigger the application of the Housing Policy's affordability requirements. The policy change will apply to the City's review and approval of brownfield grant applications for the November 1, 2018 round.

Homeless Encampment. There is growing concern about the encampment located on a strip of land owned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation near East Franklin and Bloomington Avenues. To help address this, the City is working a wide array of public and private community partners including: American Indian community leaders, Natives Against Heroin, Native American Community Development Institute, American Indian Community Development Corporation, Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Hennepin County, St. Stephen's Human Services, People Incorporated, and Federally-funded health care clinics. The Coordinator's Office is leading the City efforts regarding the encampment with support from Health, Police and Public Works departments. The immediate focus is on harm reduction, safety and improved hygiene, while working on an array of longer-term solutions in partnership with local and state partners and service-delivery organizations, including transitioning tent dwellers into stable housing and connecting those in the encampment with medical help and social services they need. There will be a report to the Housing Policy and Development Committee on this on September 12. For more information and ideas about how to help see <https://www.franklinhiawathacamp.org/>

City Academy for Youth. I was delighted to see the City hold its first-ever City Academy for Youth this summer. It was organized by Urban Scholar, Katie Wollmering, to help people ages 14-21 learn about City government and the various programs and job opportunities that the City offers.

Pathways to Prosperity. The Council has accepted grants from the State Department of Employment and Economic Development for \$250,000 for employment and training services in the public safety sector, and \$350,000 for employment and training services in the healthcare sector.

Arvonne Fraser. Longtime activist Arvonne Fraser has died. Ms. Fraser was well known for being an outspoken advocate for women's rights and other social justice causes on local, state and national levels. In response the Council passed resolution to celebrating her amazing life and legacy and honoring her contributions to the city, state and nation. I felt honored to have known Arvonne and know that she will be deeply missed.

U of MN Master Contract. The Council has approved a master agreement with the University of Minnesota in an amount not-to-exceed \$3,000,000, for a period of five (5) years, for research, consulting, and technical assistance services. The contract will cover services including but not limited to academic or community-based research, program evaluation, best practice studies, strategic planning or data analysis, and survey research. The master agreement is intended to streamline the ability of City departments to engage units of the University for research, consulting and technical assistance by setting up an overall legal framework that covers general terms and conditions, thereby allowing individual projects to be developed with short Work Order forms, that will be administratively easier and quicker to process.

Regional Parks Plan & the Grand Rounds Missing Link. The Metropolitan Council has released an update to its 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan. It generally matches the 2015 draft but includes more details about how the Equity Toolkit is used and adds a new regional park and 11 new regional trails to the system plan. Of particular interest to me is the Grand Round Missing link that would help connect Ward 2 neighborhoods to the River and the entire system of the Grand Rounds. For regional trails to be eligible for Met Council funding for acquisition and development, the Council must first approve a master plan for them. There are 48 proposed regional trails without approved master plans. The only Minneapolis Regional Trail proposed without an approved master plan is the 3.5-mile-long Grand Rounds Missing Link. I plan to submit comments calling for the Council to approve a master plan (that the Minneapolis Park Board will first need to submit to them) and funding for this critical piece of infrastructure. The update is now available for public comment and there will be a public hearing on September 17 beginning at 4 pm at the Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 Robert Street North in Saint Paul. Public comment will be accepted through Thursday, September 27 at 5 pm by mail to Metropolitan Council Public Information, 390 Robert St. N., St. Paul, MN 55101, by E-mail to public.info@metc.state.mn.us and by recording a comment on the Public Comment Line: 651-602-1500. For more information see <https://metro council.org/News-Events/Parks/Parks-News-Articles/2040-REGIONAL-PARKS-POLICY-PLAN-UPDATE-RELEASED-FO.aspx>

Open Streets. I was delighted to attend Franklin Ave Open Streets on Sunday August 26th from 11am – 5pm and am looking forward to the last Ward 2 Open Streets of the season. The University of Minnesota + Motley Open Streets event will be held on **Sunday, September 30th**

from 11am - 5pm along 14th Ave SE, University Ave SE, and Oak St SE. To learn more and see all the scheduled events visit www.openstreetsmpls.org.

Minnehaha Commons. Construction of Alliance Housing's new apartment building at 3001 E. Lake Street that will house 44 adults over the age of 55 will start on September 13 with a ground breaking. This City-supported affordable housing project for older adults with a history of homelessness will have services provided by Touchstone Mental Health. The \$10.8 million development is expected to be completed and fully leased by September 2019. You can learn more about this at <http://www.alliancehousinginc.org/groundbreaking-on-project-to-house-44-elderly-adults-scheduled-for-september-13th/>

Solar Financing for Forteva Investments. The Council has approved using Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing for the commercial property at 3501 23rd Ave S in Ward 2. This will allow the city to provide funding and then recovering the investment through an assessment on the property in the amount of \$56,000 to be used by the property owner for energy efficiency and solar panels.

Art and Architecture Vermillion Development. After I moved a two-week delay to help address the concerns of nearby neighbors, I recommended, and the Council voted, to approve the Art and Architecture Vermillion project near Bedford and University Ave SE with 5 additional conditions. The approved project will preserve the Art and Architecture building and include a parking garage, commercial space, 136 apartments and 70 condominium units housed in a 14 story (147' tall) tower. The new conditions focused on addressing concerns about traffic on Prospect Terrace as well as impacts from the garage and building being constructed so close to back yards along Clarence Avenue. While the project will move forward I have also set in motion a City effort to find a way to better regulate building height near the historic "Witch's Hat" Tower. At the meeting where my motion to postpone the final approval for two weeks passed I also was able to pass a direction to City staff "to work with the Historic Preservation Commission to review how PLAN6619 and future development in the area may impact the viewshed from and to the Prospect Park Witch's Hat Tower, and to determine if such viewsheds are worthy of protection and how that might be accomplished." The Commission met during the two weeks but, unfortunately, did not take up this matter. Still, I am hopeful they will help us develop guidelines, or perhaps a change to our Historic Preservation ordinance, that would better protect the viewshed from and to the Tower. I know that this process has sparked some very strong reactions in people, and strong opinions. I know that many are not satisfied with the outcome. I will admit that this project has been challenging for me but I believe that the outcome balanced the rights of the property owner, considered the recommendations coming from the neighborhood organization, the planning staff and planning commission and also from the neighbors who were most impacted. In the end I hope I was able to meet my obligations to the law and to my constituents, while respecting the neighborhood process, and reducing the negative impacts of this project on neighboring properties and the nearby historic resources.

New Prospect North Street Lighting District. The Council has approved a new Street Lighting District located along 4th St SE from 25th Ave SE to Malcolm Ave SE. There will be a public

hearing on October 9, in City Hall room 317 at 10:00am, to consider the establishment of this district and the assessments. The property owners along the corridor have submitted a letter supporting the establishment of the lighting district.

Malcolm Yards Market. The Council has authorized an application for grant funding from the State for \$450,000 to support Malcolm Yards Market project at 501 30th Ave SE. The developer (Malcolm Yards Market LLC, an affiliate of Wall Development) intends to construct a 16,500 square foot urban food hall repurposing the existing Harris Machinery Building. The funds are being requested for demolition of the roof and upper portions of the walls of the building that will remain, along with the stabilization/adaptive reuse efforts necessary for the building.

Samatar Crossing. I was happy to see the opening of the Samatar Crossing in August. This is something that former Mayor Rybak and I started working on over 5 years ago and means there is now a new pedestrian and bike connection between Cedar-Riverside neighborhood and downtown by repurposing a freeway exit ramp. Samatar Crossing is named after the late Hussein Samatar, Minneapolis School Board member and the first Somali-American elected to public office in Minneapolis. There are plans for more landscaping and public art along the crossing and the City has issued a call for artists and is seeking up to three artists to collaborate on the design of an iconic public artwork for the crossing.

West Bank Night Market. Please join me at the West Bank Night Market at 427 Cedar, the old site of Dania Hall, on Saturday and Sunday **September 15-16**, 3pm-10pm. The Cedar Cultural Center will be hosting their Global Roots Festival, and businesses will be hosting booths and activities.

Apartment on Riverside and 8th. Demolition is underway and construction is beginning on the new apartment building on the properties located at 2506 and 2510 Riverside Ave, and 2514, 2516 2518 and 2522 8th St. The result will be a 6-story residential building with 85 dwelling units. The building front on Riverside and 8th will have a residential fitness room, lounge, lobby, potential meeting space and bike storage. All concerns about construction can be directed to Seth Norling, snorling@reuterwalton.com, 612.876.4382.

Fairview Health Services. The Council has approved the issuance of up to \$550,000,000 in 501 (c)(3) revenue bonds to Fairview Health Systems to refund prior bond issues and to fund the renovation, improvement and equipping of portions of various Minneapolis facilities and Fairview Southdale Hospital in Edina. This will include upgrades to the emergency department, operating rooms, and radiation and laboratory facilities at the University of Minnesota Medical Center at 500 Harvard St, 2450 Riverside Ave, 420 Delaware St SE and 2020 Minnehaha Ave S.

Mixed Blood Theatre. The City has granted Mixed Blood Theater Company, 1501 4th St S, an On-Sale Wine with Strong Beer License.

Motley Development Collaborative. A new partnership has formed to lead redevelopment near the eastern edge of the University of Minnesota's East Bank Campus. It is being spearheaded by the University of Minnesota Foundation Real Estate Advisors (UMFREA), who owns several properties adjacent to the University's East Bank and UMarq Investments, a Pohlad-owned entity. Under the name, Visus, they are now developing a master plan for the area that they hope will unite "the City, University, private sector and community." They are forming an Advisory Council open to community member. If you have interest in this see: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3iNDQDeizRHtwGAU656-bIRlcFBDjszfPrhKEcx6xev6vQ/viewform> . You can also learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/motleympls/> <https://twitter.com/motleympls> <https://motleympls.com/2018/07/05/step-1-be-inspired-3/>

My Burger. The Council has approved the new 16 seat outdoor sidewalk café for the My Burger restaurant at 213 Oak Street.

Openings on Boards and Commissions. Several board and commission positions are open for City Council and Mayor appointments this spring. People can apply and stay up to date on vacancies, position descriptions and timelines by visiting minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings. Potential applicants can find more information at 612-673-2216 or OpenAppointments@minneapolismn.gov.

Open Office Hours in the Ward. I usually hold open Community "Office Hours" in the ward every Monday morning from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Please feel free to call the office at 673-2202 to reserve some time when I will be there or just stop by.
First Mondays at the Birchwood Café, 3311 E 25th St;
Second Mondays at Black: Coffee and Waffles, 1500 Como Ave SE;
Third Mondays at T-Rex Cookie Café, 3338 University Ave SE; and
Fourth Mondays at the East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St.

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