

# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Longfellow, 10-17-18

**Cam's Next Longfellow/Cooper Office Hours:  
Monday, October 22, 9:30-11:00am  
East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St**

## **Cam Gordon**

City Council Member  
Second Ward

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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.*

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) Street Sweeping
- 2) 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- 3) 2019 Budget
- 4) Election Judges Needed
- 5) General Election
- 6) Liquor Store Charter Amendment
- 7) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) The City will begin sweeping streets on Tuesday, October 23. "No Parking" signs will be posted at least 24 hours in advance starting on October 22. People will need to follow posted parking rules or their cars may be ticketed and towed. Folks can find out when the sweepers are coming through their neighborhoods at [www.minneapolismn.gov/streetsweeping](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/streetsweeping). Visitors to the website will be able to find out which week their street is scheduled to be swept and then, on the weekend before each of the four weeks, the schedule for the upcoming week will be broken down to show which day of the week streets are scheduled to be swept. Please spread the word.
- 2) The second draft of the new Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan is now published. I believe that it offers a promising path forward to help us plan thoughtfully for population growth while reducing racial and economic disparities, and addressing climate change. To review the plan and get more information visit <https://minneapolis2040.com/>. I have made hard copies available for review for each Ward 2 neighborhood association, and also at local parks and at the East Lake Library. There will be Public Hearings at the Planning Commission on October 29 at 4:00pm and before the City Council on November 14 at 4:30pm, both in Room 317 in City Hall. I expect both the Planning Commission and the Council to make numerous amendments to the plan before the Council approve it in December (probably the 7th). If you have particular land use or built form amendments you would like to see near your home or in your neighborhood, I would appreciate you sharing them with me. I will be more likely to consider amendments that have been vetted with nearby residents and property owners as well as the local neighborhood and/or business organization. General amendments I intend to bring forward so far include policy amendments on establishing Innovation Districts, repairing damages of the Interstate Highway System, supporting the work of locally designated Neighborhood Organizations and recognizing the uniqueness of the University Area similar to how downtown gets a special designation in the plan. I also plan to propose smaller changes to strategies within in other policy areas related to increasing affordable housing options (including Single Room Occupancy, Accessory Dwelling Units and Smaller "tiny" Home Clusters) and district and clean energy options (including geothermal energy, anaerobic digestors and capturing heat from waste water).

- 3) The Council is now deliberating on the Mayor's proposed 2019 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, raising the total amount levied by \$18.7 million, 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 budget is available online at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/budget/>. 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 before the City Council will be on November 1 at 9:00 am, 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. I am also working on possible budget amendments that I would keep or add additional staff positions I feel are necessary. First, I am concerned that the Mayor is not proposing to make permanent the two health inspectors added with one-time funding last year. I believe that this year proves that the health inspectors are needed and that they should be funding in an ongoing way. Second, I am convinced that we need an additional civilian investigator in investigate Police misconduct complaints in the Civil Rights Department. Most complainants are requesting civilian investigators and we do not have adequate staff to investigate them full. I am also concerned that there is no funding set aside for neighborhood organizations in any of the 5 year projections. While funding will be stable for 2019, as the Tax Increment District is set to end in 2021 I think it is important for ongoing funding to be noted in our 5 year projections.
- 4) 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>
- 5) The 2018 General Election will be held **Tuesday, November 6**, and Early Voting has already begun. People can Vote-By-Mail (VBM) by requesting an Absentee Ballot Application through one of the following methods in-person at Elections & Voter Services – Room 201, Minneapolis City Hall 50 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415, by e-mail at [minneapolisabsentee@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:minneapolisabsentee@minneapolismn.gov), fax at 612-673-2756, or online at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx>. People can vote early in-person at the City's Downtown Early Vote Center located at **217 S. Third Street**, one block northwest of City Hall. There, voters can receive their ballot as well as assistance in accessing and marking their ballot from election judges. From **Tuesday, October 30 to Monday, November 5** we will be opening 3 additional Early Vote Centers. They will be at the Urban League at 2100 Plymouth Avenue North, at the **University of Minnesota – Fieldhouse in Ward 2 at 1800 University Avenue SE** and at Regents Assembly Church at 810 W. 31st Street. Find sample ballots for all 132 Minneapolis precincts here: [www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot](http://www.vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot). For more information visit [www.vote.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.vote.minneapolismn.gov), [www.facebook.com/votempls](https://www.facebook.com/votempls) and [www.twitter.com/votempls](https://www.twitter.com/votempls).
- 6) There will be a proposal on the November general election ballot that would amend the City Charter to "Remove Area and Spacing Requirement for Liquor Licenses: Shall the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to remove from the City Charter the area and spacing requirements pertaining to liquor licenses?" Currently, if an establishment is in a commercial district of less than seven acres they are not allowed to apply for a liquor license with the City but they can go to the MN State Legislature to get a special exemption. Over the years all these exemptions are routinely given but generally take a time and effort from businesses and the legislature. The intent of the change is to give the Council the authority to regulate liquor licenses within the City if the usual conditions are met but to remove all off-sale liquor language from the Charter. If the charter amendment passes, I believe we need to move some, if not all, of the already existing off-sale language into ordinance. Council Members Palmisano, Cunningham and Council Member Ellison, working with Business Licensing staff, the City Attorney's office, and other stakeholders are leading this effort. A public hearing on the ordinance changes is scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> so that should the Charter amendment pass on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more see <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2018-01201>
- 7) 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.