

Second Ward February 2019 E-newsletter

News from Cam Gordon

Council Member, Second Ward

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

<http://secondward.blogspot.com>

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Winter Parking Restrictions. Parking is now banned from the even side of non-Snow-Emergency routes until April 1 to help ensure city streets are accessible after the heavy snow accumulation this winter. Stay informed about this and Snow Emergencies by calling 612-348-SNOW and visiting minneapolismn.gov/snow.

Second Ward Transportation Plan Meeting. Please join me on **March 6** from 7-9:00pm at Matthews Park (2318 29th Ave S) for a Community Conversation to help inform the drafting of the City's new ten-year Transportation Action Plan: Go Minneapolis (#gompls). It will outline strategies consistent with the new Comprehensive Plan, Complete Streets Policy and Vision Zero initiative. It will build from and replace the Access Minneapolis plan, including the Downtown Action Plan, Citywide Action Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, Street and Sidewalk Design Guidelines, and Streetcar planning documents. It is anticipated that the draft plan will be released in 2019 and will be brought to the City Council for approval in 2020. Visit go.minneapolismn.gov to learn more about the plan goals, topics and how to get involved. Please come and share your concerns, hopes and ideas for improving transportation in our neighborhoods and city. You can find the Facebook event here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/382062162528132/>.

Neighborhoods 2020. For the past few years, I have been deeply engaged in City conversations about the future of neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis. Last year, this work was organized around an initiative, called Neighborhoods 2020, that resulted in recommendations in three major areas: programming and funding, governance, and a citywide community engagement policy. In January, the City released draft recommendations (available at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/2020>) for public comment based on the Neighborhoods 2020 work. The public comment period runs through **March 31**. You can comment in writing or in person at one of the remaining community meetings: **March 8:** Harrison Community Center, 503 Irving Ave N, 6-8pm; **March 13:** Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center, 505 15th Ave S, 6-8pm; **March 15:** Waite House, 2323 11th Ave S, 6-8pm. Final policy recommendations are expected to go before the City Council in April.

Youth Master Plan Ward 2 Meeting. Please join me and staff from the Youth Coordinating Board on **April 8** from 5:30-7:30pm at Longfellow Recreation Center for a youth-led meeting with the Minneapolis Youth Congress. The meeting is for youth, so they can share their ideas and help develop a set of recommendations that will go in a Youth Master Plan that will be considered by the Youth Coordinating Board in August. The Youth Master Plan seeks to make Minneapolis the best city for youth and children, and will encourage collaboration across city,

county, school, and parks systems in accordance with the voices of youth in our city. For more information visit www.ycb.org/wardmeetings.

Right to Know Energy Disclosure Ordinances. The Council has approved the ordinance amendments I authored with Council Member Schroeder that will require some basic disclosure of residential energy use. For single family homes and duplexes, it will be requiring a simple energy report to be added to the existing Truth in Sale of Housing program. For rental property owners of buildings below 50,000 square feet (or 50 units) it will add a rental application energy disclosure requirement. For rental property owners of buildings over 50,000 square feet, it will add a requirement to benchmark their buildings, just as commercial buildings of that size have been required to do for years. You can read more about this initiative here: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/buildings-energy/index.htm>

Stable Homes Stable Schools. The Council has approved a new program where we will work with the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA), Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS), and Hennepin County to help families experiencing (or at risk of experiencing) homelessness be able to live in homes near the schools where their children are enrolled. It will help up to 21 families in each of the 15 selected schools, including Anishinaabe Academy and Anne Sullivan in Ward 2, and serve up to 320 families and as many as 648 students over a three-year period.

Minneapolis Homes Program. In February the Council received a report on the Minneapolis Homes and Green Homes North programs and approved the sale of 34 city-owned vacant lots for the construction of new homes. The programs are intended to preserve and increase affordable homeownership opportunities in the city and improve equitable outcomes in construction and homeownership. The full presentation can be found at <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Download/RCA/7834/Minneapolis%20Homes%20Presentation.pdf>

New City Vision Statement. I am hopeful that the Council will adopt a new updated vision statement and set of values later this month. This is tentatively set to come before the Committee of the Whole on March 13.

Strategic and Racial Equity Action Plan Goals. In February, the Council approved the following 4-year goals as part of the Strategic Racial Equity Action Plan:

1. Public Safety: The City prioritizes collaborative and community-inclusive strategies to ensure safety for all members of our community.
2. Housing: The City prioritizes equitable access to safe, stable, accessible, and affordable housing to eliminate racial disparities in housing.
3. Economic Development: The City prioritizes economic inclusion so that all workers and families are supported and People of Color, Indigenous and Immigrant (POCII)-owned businesses in all sectors can thrive.
4. Public Services: The City prioritizes reliable and equitable access to high-quality public services.

5. Environmental Justice: The City prioritizes sustainable practices and renewable resources to equitably address climate change while restoring and protecting our soil, water and air.
6. Built Environment & Transportation: The City prioritizes high quality neighborhoods, streets, infrastructure and equitable access to multimodal transportation in all parts of the City through thoughtful planning and design.
7. Public Health: The City prioritizes positive youth development so that all children can grow healthy and safe.
8. Arts and Culture: The City prioritizes arts and culture as an important part of inclusive economic development and placemaking in our communities.

These will be added to the 4 operational, more internal, goals approved in December and serve as a foundation for the development of more specific strategies in the months ahead.

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00140>

Racial Equity Action Plan Priorities. The Council has directed staff to implement an engagement plan and develop operational strategies focused on three top priorities related to the 3 goals for housing, economic development and public safety. These focused strategies are to 1) Reduce evictions among communities of color so that disparities are eliminated between Black, Indigenous, People of Color communities and white people; 2) Increase the number of businesses owned by people of color so that the disparity between Black, Indigenous, People of Color communities and white people is eliminated; and, 3) Eliminate the disproportionate impact of violence in Black, Indigenous, People of Color communities.

Wage Theft. Our Workplace Advisory Committee has formally recommended that the City pass a Wage Theft Ordinance to address the serious and persistent problem of wage theft in our City. You see their presentation at

https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/RCA/8328/Wage%20Theft%20Presentation%20for%20PECE%203_4_19.pdf. It is my understanding that Council Members Palmisano and Fletcher intend to introduce an ordinance based on these recommendations sometime in May.

Aging Minneapolis. This month the Council received the Minneapolis for a Lifetime: Age Friendly Action Plan annual update. We learned that we have seen an increase in affordable housing units (up to 454) for older adults and we saw senior support services continue to be supported by the City with expanded support to 4 providers, (including the Longfellow Seward Healthy Seniors and Southeast Seniors in Ward 2), who now cover the entire City. For more information visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/engagement/WCMS1P-143473>

2020 Census. The next census will take place on April 1st next year, 2020. An accurate Census is the foundation for a fair democracy and will be used to determine political representation over the next decade. To help get an accurate count, the Council is establishing a new Complete Count Committee that will provide guidance and support for the City's outreach and engagement efforts leading up to and during the 2020 Census. Our goal is to work together to make sure that all Minneapolis residents are counted. For more see

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/census/index.htm>

Street Outreach Contract. Following the results of an open Request for Proposal process, the council has approved a \$300,000 contract with St. Stephen's Human Service for homeless outreach services in 2019 with the option to renew for additional four years subject to need, funding approvals in the budget and a performance review by the Community Planning and Economic Development Director.

White Ally Workshop. People are invited to attend a White Ally Toolkit Training with David Campt, **March 7-9pm**. The event is being sponsored by Minnesota Peacebuilding and will include three separate events including an introduction to the toolkit held near Ward 2 on **March 7**, from 7:00pm – 8:30pm at Faith Mennonite Church, 2720 East 22nd Street. For more information see <http://www.mnpeace.org/events.html>.

City and Neighborhood Board Diversity Surveys. The Public Health, Civil Rights and Community Engagement committee learned the results of the 2018 diversity audits of our City Boards and Commissioners and of our Neighborhood Group Boards. I thank everyone who took the time to fill out the survey and am hopeful that the information will help us better understand who is currently involved in these ways and whose voices are missing. While some progress has been made it is clear that we can do more to ensure that the make up of these groups better reflects the diversity of our city. The most glaring groups that are missing include renters, people aged 18 to 24 and those of us without postsecondary education. For the full reports visit <https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Agenda/PECE/752>.

Community Engagement Learning Lab. Everyone is welcome to join City staff and community partners in a free series of learning labs on effectively engaging African-American, Latino, East African, American Indian and Southeast Asian communities. Attendees will learn ideas for modes of communication including names of media outlets and major gathering places; major community institutions such as nonprofits, coalitions, sacred spaces, temples and mosques, etc. and major community events, holidays or festivals. The sessions will also cover disabilities, common misconceptions regarding immigration, and the ways immigration policy can affect engagement between residents and their local governments. This is an opportunity to meet other staff and organizations doing community engagement. You can view the schedule and topics and enroll at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdxsW8VUVlpnw-9Z7OW53SYKA0JE24shNeLO_fdB8vDCScvDw/viewform. The first session is March 20. Email ncr@minneapolismn.gov if you have questions or difficulty registering.

Bring Your Own Bag Revisited. This month I will be renewing my efforts to amend the City's Bring Your Own Bag ordinance. As you may recall, the first Bring Your Own Bag ordinance was adopted by the City Council in 2015 that included a single-use plastic bags and a \$.05 fee on paper bags. A day before it was to take effect, however, the state legislature and governor passed a law prohibiting any Minnesota city from banning plastic bags. In 2017 I drafted an amendment to the passed ordinance to make it consistent with state law, by replacing the ban with a fee on plastic bags as well as paper. To help gather information about this the City is doing an online survey you can fill out at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCtNAimY3h-L9llcZP04KFNR360Z22L6mPxAEQPEgqR5Ngw/viewform>. You can also learn more about the ordinance at <http://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2017-00817>.

Recycling Changes. In February, all those residents who have city garbage, waste and recycling service should have received a guide with information on all services provided by Solid Waste & Recycling. The guide highlights two changes to the accepted recycling materials and new programs to prevent and clean up litter. The materials no longer accepted in recycling carts are no. 6 plastics and any black plastic. Changes in recycling markets make this necessary. You can learn more at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/recycling/Acceptable-Recyclables> and <http://wcms/wwwmpls/solid-waste/recycling/index.htm>.

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control Survey. You can help Minneapolis Animal Care and Control improve its services and public outreach efforts by taking a short survey through March 10. All responses are anonymous. Learn more about Minneapolis Animal Care and Control at www.minneapolismn.gov/animals. Take the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QV3GS68?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Bike & Ped Committee Reports. In February the Council received the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee 2018 Annual Reports that are available at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00243> and <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00222>.

Police Traffic Enforcement. The Council received a report from the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) on traffic enforcement that revealed racial, geographic and gender inequities in who is stopped and searched in Minneapolis for minor traffic and equipment violations. This followed a report last fall by the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office that found that more than half of those stopped in Minneapolis for equipment violations were black. In North Minneapolis 80 percent of drivers pulled over for such violations were black, compared with 12 percent who were white. At the Council Committee the Police Chief indicated that he believed the practices were valuable because many traffic stops have helped the city recover illegally possessed guns. In 2018, of the 26,502-total traffic stops 92 guns were recovered, but only 18% of those (roughly 17) of those stops were related to equipment violations, most were for moving violations. Gun violence in our City is a serious and tragic problem and the racial, geographic and gender disparities in gun violence are stark and disturbing. Still, I am sympathetic to those calling for a moratorium on these types of stops and searches based on minor equipment violations and am not sure it is an appropriate or wise policy to use them as an excuse to search for guns, especially if that decision is being based on the race, gender or location of the driver. More information is available here <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/2072/City%20Council%20Presentation%20Final%202.6.19.pdf> and <http://www.startribune.com/proposed-moratorium-on-police-traffic-stops-takes-center-stage-at-minneapolis-subcommittee-hearing/505476812/>

Police Body-worn Camera Report. The Police presented the fourth quarter Minneapolis Police Department body-worn camera metrics this month and it appears that the cameras are being properly used and the video is being properly labeled and stored the majority of the time. You can find the presentation at

<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/2103/MPD%202018%20Quarter%204%20Body%20Worn%20Camera%20Metrics%20-%20Final%20revised%20pg%2023.pdf>

Ketamine Report. A report released this month rekindled the serious concerns about the use of ketamine by Hennepin Healthcare in conjunction with Minneapolis Police. Our police are not trained and should not be engaged in diagnosis or treatment of illnesses. I was especially concerned to read in that " ... in a significant number of cases involving ketamine, the officers also diagnosed patients with 'excited delirium syndrome,' according to the report. Excited delirium is a controversial term among medical authorities that describes a form of potentially fatal severe agitation, and its prevalence and even its existence are a matter of debate." I agree with many of the recommendations of this most recent King and Spalding report. I hope the Hennepin County Board will take the recommendations regarding Hennepin Healthcare's actions and policies seriously, and that the City will take the recommendations regarding City operations seriously. For more see <http://www.startribune.com/sally-yates-important-questions-unanswered-in-nixed-ketamine-investigation/505522362/>

Court Victory for Minimum Wage. I was delighted to learn that that the Minnesota Court of Appeals, with two judges ruling in our favor and one dissent, has affirmed the judgment in favor of the City on our minimum wage ordinance. I thank the City Attorney and her office for all the work and skill they put into defending our ordinance. I am hopeful that the appellant, Graco Inc., will now stand down and stop fighting this City law.

Artists Selected for new City Building. The City has selected 15 artists to create public artworks for the City's new Public Service Building that is scheduled to open in the fall of 2020. Projects and artists include bird safe glass art designs for windows by Futures North artists Molly Reichert and Adam Marcus; a suspended lobby sculpture by Tristan Al-Haddad; 5 mural projects on glass reflecting life in Minneapolis by Angela Two Stars, Connor Rice, Khao Lee Thao, Marlina Myles and Witt Siasoco; and 7 unique elevator lobby ceilings incorporating lighting and greeting guests and employees as they enter each floor by Aaron Marx, Alexander Tylevich, Andrew Lucia/Iroha Ito, Christopher Harrison, James Brenner, Laurie Borggreve, and Rory Wakemup. I was delighted to learn that 13 of the artists are local. These artists were selected from a total of 163 applications. Artworks will be open to the public when the building opens. The new building will be located diagonally across from City Hall. For more information about the Public Service Building project, visit the project website at <http://minneapolismn.gov/cped/officebuilding>.

Creative Economy Report. The new 2018 Minneapolis Creative Index report has been released. It provides a wealth of information about the creative sector's workforce and workspace needs and the significant role it plays in the larger knowledge economy. According to the report, the city and region show an overall healthy, nationally competitive creative sector with strong job

growth of 14.4 percent growth between 2006 and 2016. Revenues from for-profit creative sales alone reached \$5 billion, outpacing sports sector revenues by more than nine times and making up 6 percent of all sales in Minneapolis. You can find the full report at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@citycoordinator/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-216598.pdf>.

Upper Harbor Terminal. On March 1 the City Council approved an amended Upper Harbor Terminal (UHT) Concept Plan and some related actions. You can see the amendments to the Concept Plan at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/2100/Cunningham%20and%20Ellison%20UHT%20Amendments%200219.pdf>, and all the actions and staff directions (see items 8 and 9) at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/MarkedAgenda/EDRS/741>. I think that the amended plan has a great deal of flexibility and represents a good next step for this historic redevelopment opportunity. Before a final plan is approved, I hope to see several community supported changes coming forward, including more public ownership as well as clarity about how the project will be a model for how to deliver on real community benefits while addressing historic racial injustice and fighting climate change. For more information you can also visit <http://upperharbormpls.com/>

Open Streets 2019. The Council has approved the dates and location for this years' Open Street events that temporarily close streets to motorized traffic and open it up for general use by the public, notably those walking and bicycling. The events are free to the public and provide an opportunity for people to engage in physical activity, meet their neighbors, and discover new businesses in different neighborhoods around the city. Last year, with seven events, we saw the highest average event attendance in the initiative's history, at an estimated 13,285 people per event. The three events in Ward 2 neighborhoods will be held on **Sunday July 21** on East Lake/Minnehaha, on Lake Street from Elliot Ave to Minnehaha Ave, then Minnehaha Ave to Minnehaha Pkwy/Godfrey Pkwy; on **Sunday August 25** on Franklin Ave from Portland Ave S to 27th Ave S; and, on **Sunday September 8** in and near the University on 14th Ave SE from 5th St SE to University Ave SE, then University Ave SE to Oak St SE, then Oak St SE from University Ave SE to East River Parkway. For more information on these and all 2019 routes see <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/3867>

2019 Minneapolis Preservation Awards. The Minneapolis Preservation Awards celebrate the heritage and historic character of Minneapolis. In February annual awards were presented to projects, individuals, and organizations that celebrate the heritage and historic character of Minneapolis. My congratulation goes to Christ Church Lutheran, with Friends of Christ Church Lutheran, MacDonald & Mack Architects, Watson-Forsberg, Mattson Macdonald Young and Anderson Engineering for winning the Preservation Gem award for their stunning courtyard project at 3244 34th Ave S.

Scooter Sharing. In March the Council will receive a report on last years Shared Scooter Pilot and consider approving another round of license agreement with qualifying applicants as part of a renewed and extended pilot program that would go through March 31, 2020. Last year

there were a total of 243,587 rides by over 74,000 different users. There were fewer than 100 formal complaints registered through 311 or Council Offices and most of the had to do with parking of the scooters (47) or riding (34). There were 4 reported crashes but no sever injuries. The Public Works director is recommending renewing and extending the pilot in 2019 with some adaptations based on observation and analysis from the 2018 pilot. You can find the full report and recommendations here <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/RCA/3920>.

Metro Transit E-Line Study. Metro Transit is conducting a study that will change the number 6 bus route to a new E Line Bus Rapid Transit corridor. They are currently looking at several options for the line, including where it would end on the north --- potentially in the Second Ward. One northern end point is in downtown, but two have it meeting the Green Line and ending in or near Prospect Park, either at the Stadium Village or Westgate Stations. Final decisions on the alignment and station locations will take place this year with construction not expected until 2023. Please visit <https://www.metrotransit.org/e-line-project> to learn more and get involved.

Mississippi Gorge Regional Park Master Plan. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has released a draft of the Mississippi Gorge Regional Park Master Plan for a comment period that will end **March 10**. The Gorge Regional Plan creates a vision for the 132 acres of riverfront parkland between Bridge 9 (Dinkytown Greenway bridge) and Minnehaha Regional Park. This includes all the riverfront in the Second Ward. Hard copies of the draft plan should be available at Luxton Park, Brian Coyle Center, Matthews Park, Bracket Field, Longfellow Park, Hiawatha School, Mary Merrill Headquarters Building. There is a comment page at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/draftgorge> and more information about the project at https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/park_care_improvements/park_projects/current_projects/mississippi_gorge_regional_park_master_plan/.

Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) Appointments. At my recommendation, the Council has approved the appointment of Martha Rogers for a 2-year term to be one of the two Ward 2 representatives on the CLIC panel that reviews and recommends infrastructure and building improvement projects to be invested in each year. Claire Haskell, from Prospect Park, has also applied and I am also recommending her for approval and expect her to be approved in March. I am very grateful for their willingness to serve in this important role.

Great Streets Grants. The Council has authorized grants totally \$320,000 for the 2019 or Great Streets Façade Improvement Grant Program Administration. This includes funding for the Lake Street Council, in the amount of \$50,000 and for Seward Redesign, Inc. in the amount of \$50,000. For more information visit <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00155>.

Midtown Corner Apartments. The Wellington Development company is moving forward with nee plans to construct a 6-story apartment building on the surface parking lots at 29th Street and Minnehaha Ave. They hope to begin construction later this year and will be submitting their plans for neighborhood review and City approval early this spring. You can learn more about the project at <https://www.minnehahacrossing.com/>

Malcolm Yards. The Malcolm Yards project has received its land use approvals from the Planning Commission. I expect to see the project before the Council soon for the rezoning and Planned Unit Development approval. The project includes three buildings on the north side of the University Transitway: a food hall in the existing Harris Machinery building and two new apartment buildings, one with a commercial use (likely a grocery store) in the first floor. My office has worked with the applicant, the Wall Companies, and the University of Minnesota to come to an agreement about having a new public section of 30th Ave SE cross the Transitway. As part of that agreement, the developer has committed to build traffic signals at the intersections of the Transitway and Malcolm and 30th Ave. I am excited that the developer is also actively exploring using geothermal energy to provide some of the heating and cooling for the entire project, with the help of Ever-Green Energy and Towerside. I'm hopeful that this will come to fruition and become the foundation of the long-proposed Towerside district energy system.

Shriners Hospital for Sale. In January I learned that the Shriners Hospital in Prospect Park along East River Road is now for sale. I was informed that "they are still seeing patients and will continue for the future but in a different healthcare model" and was given this link with more details <https://www.healthcarecampusforsale.com/>

Glendale Historic Nomination. I expect the City's Heritage Preservation Commission to take up this nomination on **March 19**. If they accept it, it will initiate a formal study that could take up to 18 months to complete. You can find the completed nomination at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@council/documents/report/wcmssp-216312.pdf>.

New Ward 2 Rental Licenses. The Council has approved a new Rental Dwelling License for the home at 3218 40th Ave S with conditions that can be found at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00150>. and for 1915-1917 Sharon Ave SE, with conditions that can be found at <https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2019-00154>).

Semi-Truck Parking in South Seward. Public Works staff have come up with a proposal to address semi-truck parking in south Seward. They are proposing to post "no truck parking over 3 tons" signs on some block faces in the area and not others. The blocks in where the signs will go include 26th St E from Minnehaha to 27th Ave S, both sides of the street, 26th Ave S from 25th St E to 27th St E, both sides of the street, and 27th Ave S from 25th St E to 27th St E, both sides of the street. I will be sharing this plan and gathering feedback from the Seward Neighborhood Group and Civic and Commerce Association in the weeks ahead.

New Menu Board at 31st & Lake. McDonald's is proposing to install new menu boards located at 3110 E Lake Street. The new boards will be replacing the previous with new and updated LCD screens. They are slightly smaller than the existing and do not propose major changes. They have been designed to help the workers change menu options faster during the day which in

turn helps consumers in the area. For reference, this same project has been completed at the McDonald's located at 1100 University Ave NE.

City Update Sign-Up. You can subscribe to get City updates on a variety of topics by email or text at <https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/MPLS/subscriber/new>

Jobs with the City. The City has several job openings among more than 900 different job types. To learn more and view current openings see <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/jobs>

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 am changing my Community "Office Hours" in the ward every Monday morning to start ½ hour later. **Starting in March they will go from 10:00 to 11:30am.** Please feel free to call the office 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 (NOTE: **NEW LOCATION**) Sencha Tea Bar at 825 Washington Ave SE, and Fourth Mondays at the East Lake Library, 2727 E Lake St.

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