



June 2012

# Eighth Ward News

*"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"*

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

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## Vikings Stadium in Minneapolis

### Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Association  
[www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7 pm  
4120 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

### Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Organization  
[www.welovebryant.org](http://www.welovebryant.org)  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7 pm  
Urban League South, 411 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Street

### Central

CANDO  
[www.thecentralneighborhood.com](http://www.thecentralneighborhood.com)  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 6:15 pm  
Sabathani Community Center  
310 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 304

### Field-Regina-Northrop

[www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org)  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30 pm  
1620 E 46<sup>th</sup> Street

### Kingfield

[www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7 pm  
ML King Park, 40<sup>th</sup> & Nicollet

### Powderhorn

[www.ppna.org](http://www.ppna.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:30 pm  
821 E 35<sup>th</sup> Street

A professional football team is a great asset for Minnesota. The public cost of financing a football stadium, however, must be balanced against the public benefit. I voted "no" because of the risk posed to Minneapolis tax payers over 30 years and because the public benefit is outweighed by public cost.

- **Minneapolis will pay large share of statewide facility.** The Vikings are a statewide asset and the lion's share of the benefits it brings, sales tax and income tax, go directly to the state (many residents mistakenly believe that sales taxes go to cities – they do not). Statewide taxes should fund statewide facilities.
- **Minneapolis responsibility for state facilities increased.** The stadium financing plan takes taxes now dedicated to the Convention Center and spreads them to the Vikings stadium, Convention Center, and Target Center – with the city required to pay the Vikings first and use only those funds leftover for the aging Convention Center and Target Center.
- **Harming our greatest economic generator, the Convention Center.** The Minneapolis Convention Center, by far, generates the most economic benefit (hotel rooms, restaurant and bar sales, retail sales) of any facility in Minnesota. Funds to maintain and modernize the Convention Center (called "competitive capital") will now be diverted to support the Vikings stadium and Target Center upgrades.
- **Putting a 30-year Straitjacket on Minneapolis Sales Taxes.** While Minneapolis funding of the Vikings Stadium has been described as "no new taxes", spending the cumulative total of \$675 million of taxpayer dollars means that we can't reduce these taxes or spend them on other city needs for 30 years into the future. We have eliminated our ability to do what St Paul, Duluth, and Rochester do today – spend sales taxes on general neighborhood economic development.
- **Continuing Taxpayer Funded Public Facility Competition.** This proposal continues the trend of funding public facilities to compete with each other at taxpayer expense and "outbidding" other cities to host more public facilities.

While this proposal may look good in the short term, I believe it will be criticized in years to come. As well, overriding the city charter is a breach of public trust. In a time when we have huge property tax increases and do not adequately fund local service – street repair, police and fire – putting a 30-year straitjacket on our ability to use Minneapolis sales tax base is not good policymaking for the future.

## Ensuring Vikings Stadium Benefits Minneapolis Residents

While Councilmember Glidden did not agree with the Vikings Stadium financial plan, approval of the Vikings Stadium means we must work together to ensure this project is implemented properly.

Working with our Civil Rights department, Councilmember Glidden drafted a motion, approved by the City Council, to ensure proper enforcement and oversight of stadium-relating jobs. This ensures that the stadium construction master agreement includes key provisions such as:

- Aggressive goals for hiring women and minority workers and Minneapolis residents
- Aggressive goals for hiring minority and women owned subcontractors
- Ensure oversight and enforcement of prevailing wage and hiring goals
- Prepare. **Flawed framework required Minneapolis to pay large share of statewide facility** for training and job opportunities after the stadium is constructed
- Identify ongoing sources of funding for job training

Special thank you to the HIRE Minnesota coalition, as well as Councilmembers Quincy, Hodges, Lilligren, and Samuels for their work on employment issues for the stadium.

## Minneapolis to Switch to Single-Sort Recycling in 2013



Next year, recycling in Minneapolis will get easier, helping both residents and the environment. The Minneapolis City Council has approved a change to single-sort recycling, meaning you put all recyclables into one container.

A study conducted for the City of Minneapolis compared single-sort, dual-sort (separating paper

products from everything else) and our current “multi-sort” system.

- The study findings confirmed that that single-sort recycling is the most cost-effective of the three systems studied and the most convenient for customers.
- Single-sort is projected to increase recycled materials by up to 60 percent and increase the total Minneapolis recycling rate from 18 % to 32 %
- Single sort pilot projects in Minneapolis have also found that alleys were cleaner with the new system, as everything goes in one bin that has a lid

Work is now underway to implement the change to single sort, which will occur in 2013. For more information on the recycling collection, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/recycling](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/recycling).

## 311 Can Handle Calls in Any Language



Many Minneapolis residents call “311” for city-related services, to report a problem or get other information. What you may not know is that people who don’t speak English can call 311, too. Minneapolis 311 staff speaks many different languages and a third-party translation service will join the call for any language not spoken by staff.

The City has produced a short video in English, Spanish, Hmong and Somali to help people understand Minneapolis 311 services. Go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/311](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/311) for more information and video links, which are on the left hand side. Please help share this information with your neighbors!

## See Low Play at Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery



The indie rock group Low will headline the second annual benefit concert at Minneapolis' Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery on Saturday, June 9 with special guest, Zoo Animal.

Proceeds from the performance will help support the Friends of the Cemetery's efforts to restore the historic steel and limestone pillar fence that serves as the border of the cemetery along Lake Street and Cedar Avenue.

### Benefit concert with Low!

Sat, June 9, gates open 4:30 pm  
Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery, 2925 Cedar Ave. S

### Purchase tickets at

[www.friendsofthecemetery.org](http://www.friendsofthecemetery.org)

Established in 1853, Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Minneapolis and the only Minnesota cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It's the final resting place of over 21,000 pioneers, veterans and immigrants. The most immediate need at the cemetery is the restoration of the historic fence that lines the cemetery on Lake Street and Cedar Avenue. By the spring of 2013, the fence restoration project will be 75 percent complete (50 of the 67 sections).

## Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction



The City of Minneapolis will be reconstructing, resurfacing and seal coating 70 miles of streets and parkways this construction season. The biggest project this season

is the reconstruction of Nicollet Avenue South, from Lake Street to 40th Street. Over the next two years, crews will replace the roadway and curbs, add boulevards and trees, and update streetscape with new benches and other items.

Nicollet will be reconstructed from Lake to 36<sup>th</sup> Street in 2012 and from 36<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street in 2013. Businesses along Nicollet Avenue are open

during construction! Spread the word and please support your local businesses in 2012 and 2013. Customers can access businesses directly from Nicollet or using side streets outside of the construction zone.

To get the best up-to-date information on Nicollet construction, visit the project web page ([www.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.minneapolismn.gov) – search “Nicollet Avenue Paving”). The project website has a sign-up for weekly construction e-mails, information on weekly in-person construction meetings, and lists key project staff with contact information.

## Bike Walk Week, June 2 – 10



Put a little joy into your commute – try biking and walking. Organizers of the annual Twin Cities Bike Walk Week are asking for your pledge to replace at least one car trip with biking or walking

during Bike Walk Week, June 2-10.

- For details and a calendar of Bike Walk Week events, visit <http://bikewalkweek.org>.
- On Tuesday, June 7, the **US Postal Service will unveil its new bicycle stamp** at the Minneapolis Public Library
- **Bike Score & Walk Score** – new ranking systems for bikeability and walkability have placed Minneapolis in the top 10 cities for both biking and walking. For information about the rankings, see [www.walkscore.com/bike](http://www.walkscore.com/bike) and [www.walkscore.com/rankings](http://www.walkscore.com/rankings).
- **Open Streets June 10:** for the second year in a row, Lyndale Avenue will be closed for the day to promote biking and walking. Sunday, June 10, 10am-4pm, 22<sup>nd</sup> St to 42<sup>nd</sup> St – join your neighbors on Lyndale Avenue!
- **And much more!** Go to [www.bikewalkweek.org](http://www.bikewalkweek.org) for more information on the Greenway Glow, Northern Spark, and many other fun events.

## Help Communities Bridge the Digital Divide



While 82% of Minneapolis residents have computers and Internet access at home, technology access and knowledge gaps still exist. This is among the many findings of a survey conducted to help City leaders determine the state of the “digital divide.”

City leaders and staff ask you to join them at a community discussion with residents, businesses, community groups, and others to share the survey results and get feedback about how to overcome the digital divide in Minneapolis. We need your input!

### South Minneapolis meeting details are:

- Monday June 18, 6:30 – 8 pm, [McRae Park](#), 906 47th St. E
- Wednesday June 27, 4:30 – 6 pm, [Phillips Community Center](#), 2323 11th Ave. S

As government, education, health care providers and businesses are increasingly using technology to connect with people online, it's important to ensure that all individuals can participate in the benefits of the digital society. To view the survey report, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion) and click on “2012 Community Technology Survey.”

## Enjoy Recreational Fires Safely



The Minneapolis Fire Department wants you to enjoy recreational fires safely this summer. Here are some tips on Minneapolis laws for

recreational fires:

- Only burn unpainted untreated wood
- A non-combustible fire barrier at least 6 inches high must be used, such as a fire

ring, fire pit, chiminea, or enclosed free standing fire pit

- Recreational fires must be at least 25 feet from a house, garage, wood fence, or other combustible material or structure
- Fires must be constantly attended by at least one person 18 years or older
- Enjoy your recreational fire between 9am-10pm, and when winds don't exceed 10mph.

If you have any questions about recreational fires, or have any other fire safety questions or concerns, please call Minneapolis 311, or visit Minneapolis Fire Department's website:

[www.minneapolismn.gov/fire](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/fire).

## Sabathani to Host Future Hennepin County Services



On May 17, Sabathani hosted its second community engagement meeting to discuss Sabathani as the future home of a Hennepin County Regional Service Center. This partnership between Hennepin County and Sabathani will support

an integrated model of services in a community-based location where complementary services are delivered.

Hennepin County's Human Services and Public Health Departments are proposing to provide a large range of social services at Sabathani, including Medical Assistance, Food Support, General Assistance, Child and Adult Protection Services, Behavioral Health, Disabilities and Long-term Case Management, Child Support, Veteran's Services, and more.

Sabathani and Hennepin County hope to offer these new services by 2014. For more information about Sabathani go to [www.sabathani.org](http://www.sabathani.org).

## Workshop Offers Help in Getting Solar Powered



Are you thinking about installing solar at your home or business? At a free workshop, you can hear from a panel of people who have had solar installed on their home or business, find out

about incentives and rebates for installing solar and get resources to start your solar energy project.

### Solar works workshop

6:30 to 8 p.m., Thursday, July 5

Neighborhood Hub, Christ English Church, 3210 Oliver Ave. N. To RSVP, visit

<http://minneapolisnorthsolarworks.eventbrite.com>.

## Grants Available for Community-Based Clean Energy Projects



Is there an energy efficiency or renewable energy project in your community that needs a

little help getting started? If so, The Minnesota Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERT) provides funding for innovative, community-based clean energy projects. To have a project considered for funding, just fill out an application. Applications must be submitted no later than July 2nd, 2012 at 4:00pm. To get an application and find out more about the grants, go to <http://rfp.mncerts.org>.

## Saving Energy and Money with Home Energy Efficiency Visits Gets Easier



Sign up for the home energy savings that hundreds of your neighbors enjoy. Community Energy Services, Minneapolis' premier residential energy efficiency program, is now easier than ever to join. Complete a simple 15-minute online presentation at [www.mnces.org/mpls](http://www.mnces.org/mpls) or come to a neighborhood presentation. Once you've seen

the presentation online or in person, schedule a custom home energy visit.

Two energy professionals go to your home, install materials and recommend upgrades that are right for your home – whether it's insulation, a more efficient furnace or air sealing to prevent ice dams. A home visit fee of \$40 covers:

Blower door and combustion safety tests.

Access to qualified contractors trained by our energy experts. A year of tracking your home's energy use. Up to \$400 worth of products and services.

The program is presented by the Center for Energy and Environment with support from City of Minneapolis American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. For owner-occupied homes – single family, duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes. Join now before the cost goes up in the fall. Visit [www.mnces.org/mpls](http://www.mnces.org/mpls) or call Ashley at 612-335-5869 for more information.

## Sign-up to Receive 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Updates



Want to receive this newsletter and other important 8<sup>th</sup> Ward updates? Go to the Ward 8 website and sign up for e-news at: [www.minneapolismn.gov/Ward8](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/Ward8).