



July 2012

# Eighth Ward News

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

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

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## 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

## ArtPlace Grant to Make Art and Artists an Integral Part of Minneapolis Planning and Public Spaces

Three unique, arts-driven projects in Minneapolis will receive almost \$1 million in ArtPlace grant funding to invest in art, design and culture as part of a larger portfolio of revitalization strategies that increase economic opportunities for people.

The three organizations receiving grant funds were Intermedia Arts, the Pillsbury House + Theater and the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI). In the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward, Pillsbury House + Theatre will receive \$250,000 to establish a new Chicago Avenue Arts District, or "Arts on Chicago."

As Pillsbury House describes, Arts on Chicago will implement TWENTY projects in ONE YEAR in the Central, Powderhorn, Bancroft, Bryant communities along Chicago Avenue from 32<sup>nd</sup> Street to 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to support the ongoing development of a vibrant arts and cultural district.

Arts on Chicago's creative placemaking projects will further the use of the arts in neighborhood locations to encourage social interaction, support the growth of local businesses and safer streets, and to promote a sense of neighborhood identity and ownership.

If you want details about proposing an art project, attending an information workshop, or just want to enjoy community art events, go to [www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/arts-on-chicago](http://www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/arts-on-chicago).

## Repaving 38<sup>th</sup> Street and *Safe Routes to School* Improvements in Front of Bancroft School

**SafeRoutes**  
National Center for Safe Routes to School



This July 2012, 38<sup>th</sup> Street will be repaved from Chicago Avenue to 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E. This stretch of city street has long been requested for

repaving by community members. In conjunction with 38<sup>th</sup> Street repaving, Minneapolis public works will install traffic calming improvements in front of Bancroft School as part of *Safe Routes to School*.

Safe Routes to School is a program promoted at the national, state, and city level to get as many children as possible to walk and bike to school in a safe manner. Part of this work in Minneapolis includes evaluating and recommending infrastructure and safety improvements near schools.

Near Bancroft School, speeding on 38<sup>th</sup> Street has been identified as a problem. To reduce speeds, Minneapolis public works staff will install a six foot stamped median on the block in front of the school – from 13<sup>th</sup> Ave to 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, capped at each intersection with concrete islands and signage. The travel lanes leading up to Bancroft School will gradually be narrowed on 38<sup>th</sup> Street from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Ave and from 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. Narrowing traffic lanes can help to slow traffic and concrete medians can provide a safe refuge for pedestrians as they cross the street.

With the median, 38<sup>th</sup> Street will continue to have one lane of traffic in each direction and parking on both sides of the street (no legal parking spaces would be eliminated). This proposed project would occur when 38<sup>th</sup> Street is resurfaced in August of 2012. Funding comes from the city's capital improvement budget for Safe Routes to School, not from property owner assessments which are part of the 38<sup>th</sup> Street resurfacing project.

## Huge Win for Minneapolis Rate Payers: Hiawatha Midtown Transmission Line Costs to be Split Among Five-State Rate Payers



As part of the battle over the Xcel Energy power lines, initially proposed over the Midtown Greenway, Minneapolis residents now have had a second major victory

thanks to advocacy from many residents and community groups and expert legal work by dedicated City attorneys. On a 3-1 vote, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approved a tariffing plan for the Midtown Hiawatha Transmission Line where all costs of constructing the high power transmission line, including the extra costs associated with undergrounding the line, are to be distributed throughout Xcel Energy's five state rate base. In other words, the rate payers of Minneapolis will not be required to bear any extra costs for the project beyond those paid by all other rate payers in Xcel's five state territory.

This is the final step in a three year project by the City to ensure that the transmission line, if installed, was installed underground on 28th Street, not above ground or along the Midtown Greenway. In February of 2012, the Public Utilities Commission directed that the transmission line be built under 28th Street.

The City of Minneapolis advocated consistently that the unique attributes of the Phillips Neighborhoods required that the transmission line be placed underground and that the costs be widely distributed.

Planning for construction is well underway and the City expects Xcel to break ground on the project soon. For project information visit the Public Utilities Commission website.

## Minneapolis is First City to Support Obama DREAMers Policy!



The City of Minneapolis is the first city in the United States to support President Barack Obama's federal policy that would allow undocumented youth to

continue to call America home, unanimously voting to add support to the City's federal agenda and advocate that the policy include the greatest number of youth possible.

On June 15th, 2012, President Obama announced that the Department of Homeland Security will stop deporting young immigrants who meet certain conditions. Anywhere from 5,000 to 27,000 people in Minnesota will be able to submit an application to the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service for "Deferred Action." Approved applicants will be eligible for a work permit, a social security number, and some protection against being deported. Applications will need to be renewed every two years.

By adding support of this policy to the City's federal agenda, the City of Minneapolis is recommending that the Department of Homeland Security implement this policy with the broadest, most-inclusive language so that it ensures wide participation by all those who are eligible. If the policy is fully implemented, it would prevent the deportation of many young people who have lived in the United States for years, are productive members of our communities, and call America home.

## Minneapolis Resolution Calls for US to Regulate Corporate Spending



On June 15, the Minneapolis City Council stood with U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison, grassroots coalition Move to Amend and cities across the nation in a unanimous

resolution calling for a United States constitutional

amendment to regulate corporate political spending and campaign financing.

In 2010 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Citizens United v Federal Election Commission that corporations have free speech rights to unrestricted spending on political speech. The Minneapolis resolution states that corporations are not people, do not have constitutional rights, and that government should have the power to regulate them.

The vote in Minneapolis was part of "Resolutions Week," in which cities across the country declared support for a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and regulate campaign spending. For more information, go to [www.resolutionsweek.org](http://www.resolutionsweek.org).

## Portland and Park Repaving and Restriping

Hennepin County plans to repave and restripe Portland and Park Avenues in September of 2012. A repaving project – or mill and overlay – will take off the surface of the road and replace it with a new surface. This project will not impact the existing curb and gutter.

As part of this process, Hennepin County has agreed to work with the City to review options to better serve bicyclists and to calm or slow traffic on Portland and Park Avenue. Options could include changing the striping and lane configuration on these streets. One of the options being evaluated by Hennepin County is reducing from 3 to 2 lanes of traffic and improving the bike lane's width and safety features.

After evaluating options, Hennepin County will host a community meeting in late summer to review any striping changes proposed for Portland and Park. We look forward to sharing updates with you in the coming weeks and months!

## Nicollet Reconstruction Continues: Support Your Nicollet Businesses!!



To help you get to know Nicollet Avenue businesses this year the Lyndale Neighborhood Business Association is

asking you to Live Nicollet. Live Nicollet is an innovative marketing campaign asking you to support Nicollet businesses during construction and beyond. **To get great stuff all you have to do is Sign-Up -> Shop -> Talk -> Get Stuff -> Have Fun!**

Go to [www.lyndale.org/livenicollet](http://www.lyndale.org/livenicollet) today to start earning points. Get involved to shop local and support our Nicollet businesses!

Construction on Nicollet continues as planned, with the section from Lake to 32<sup>nd</sup> Street about to reopen to thru traffic. For updates go to [www.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.minneapolismn.gov) (search term "Nicollet Paving").

## Trees Need an Inch of Water Every Week



While a rainy spring and early summer have temporarily kept our trees watered, our yard and boulevard trees need an inch of water every week throughout the spring, summer and fall. The recent rain has been welcome for

trees but not enough to counteract nine years of drought, the driest fall on record and 10th lowest snowfall in more than 100 years. If it rains less than one inch in any week, trees need to be watered to help them recover. Past years of high temperatures and drought conditions are a problem even for otherwise healthy trees and put them at serious risk of long-term damage.

Extended drought conditions can make trees vulnerable to insects and disease and cause permanent damage to young and old trees alike.

Young trees three to five years old are especially susceptible.

An effective way for residents to water a tree is to turn on a slow stream of water (just so the hose is weeping) for a few hours. Watering in the evening after dinner time is most effective since it minimizes evaporation, and trees tend to take most of their water during the night. Watering one tree weekly for the warmer months costs only about \$3 for the entire season. For people who lose track of when they last watered a tree, a good system could be watering it on the same day trash is picked up.

For information on tree care and the urban forest, contact the Park Board's Forestry Department at 612-313-7710 or go to [www.minneapolisparks.org](http://www.minneapolisparks.org) and click on "urban forest."

If you hire a tree servicing company to prune a tree, make sure to use a company licensed in Minneapolis to ensure that the tree gets the right care. For a list of licensed companies, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/licensing](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/licensing) and choose "tree service contractors" in the drop-down menu.

Taking care of our trees means protecting our Minneapolis quality of life. Research proves that healthy trees are beautiful, increase property values, help improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gases by absorbing carbon dioxide, save energy, keep the city cooler, provide homes for wildlife and help manage stormwater.

## 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).