



**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes

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# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the West Bank, 9-19-12

**Cam's next West Bank Office Hours:  
Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:30-11:00am  
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave**

## Items:

- 1) October 1 Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>
- 2) Register to Vote
- 3) View a Sample Ballot for November 6<sup>th</sup>
- 4) Riverside Plaza Grand Re-Opening
- 5) Old Rainbow Gallery Building
- 6) Equity in Employment Resolution
- 7) 2013 Budget
- 8) Changes Proposed for Regulatory Services
- 9) Civilian Review Authority
- 10) Summer 612
- 11) Zombie Pub Crawl
- 12) One Minneapolis – One Read
- 13) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) My office has scheduled a community meeting about 15<sup>th</sup> Ave and 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets for **Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** at 6 pm at the Brian Coyle Center. My hope is that the meeting will help the neighborhood come to a consensus on the pedestrian, bicycle and parking improvements to be included in the reconstruction of 15<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and pursued through separate funding sources on 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) If you want to vote in the November 6 general election, but you're not yet registered, you can pre-register. Registered voters who changed their name or moved since they last voted should re-register. Voter registration applications can be picked up at the Minneapolis Elections Office in City Hall or at the Hennepin County Government Center or found online at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=204>. If you call my office, 673-2202, we can mail you the application. All eligible individuals whose registration applications are received by elections officials by 5 p.m. on October 16 will be pre-registered for the Nov. 6 election and will receive a postcard notifying them where to vote. Individuals are eligible in Minnesota to vote if they will be at least 18 years old by Election Day, are a U.S. citizen and have lived in Minnesota for at least 20 days prior to the election. For more information about registering and voting in Minneapolis, or to serve as an election judge, visit [minneapolismn.gov/elections](http://minneapolismn.gov/elections) or call Minneapolis 311, or TTY/TTD 612-673-2157.
- 3) Sample ballots for the upcoming Nov. 6 Presidential General Election are now available for review at either of the following web tools: the Secretary of State's Voter Registration Lookup (<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>), or the Poll-finder/Where do I Vote: <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. Both of these tools will allow a voter to view their Ward/Precinct information, a polling place location (address and building identification), a list of candidates that will be on your ballot, and an unofficial Sample Ballot that can be reviewed anytime through Election Day.
- 4) The Riverside Plaza renovation project will have a Grand Re-Opening on **Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**. There will be a tour at 2pm, followed by a short ceremony and ribbon-cutting from 2:45 until 4:30.
- 5) I learned recently that Fine Associates has offered to donate the building they own at 6<sup>th</sup> St. and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the Minneapolis based nonprofit organization, Ka Joog. At their request I convened a meeting with both organizations, City staff and representatives from the West Bank Community Coalition to consider the possibility of moving the building to a location in the neighborhood. The city-owned "Dania lot" at 427 Cedar and the space just north of the Red Sea were both mentioned as possible new sites for the building. If funding for the move and a new site for the building is not found by March 2013, Fine Associates has indicated the building will be demolished.

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at 612-673-2162 or email [Ahmed.Muhumud@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Ahmed.Muhumud@minneapolismn.gov)

Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may call 311 or 612-673-3000. TTY users may call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

- 6) The resolution *Supporting Equity in Employment in Minneapolis and the Region* that I authored has passed the Council unanimously.
- 7) In August the Mayor released his proposed 2013 budget to the City Council that includes increasing the total property tax levy by 1.7%. Each department will make budget presentations through mid-November, and there will be two public hearings before a final budget is approved in December. For a schedule of presentations go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget) . All budget hearings will be broadcast live (and rebroadcast) on Minneapolis 79 (the City's cable channel). You can find the rebroadcast schedule and also view the hearings online at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79> . The public hearings on the tax levy and 2013 budget will be on **Wednesday, November 28, starting at 6:05 p.m.** and **Wednesday, December 12, 6:05 p.m.** in City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, room 317. For more information on the Mayor's recommended 2013 budget go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget) . As always I welcome hearing from you about your priorities and concerns related to this significant city decision.
- 8) The Mayor's proposed budget includes a significant change to the Department of Regulatory Services and the elimination of 3 - 5 upper management positions. As proposed, Regulatory Services would be reorganized by moving business licensing and development review functions to the Community Planning and Economic Development Department, Environmental Services (food inspection and healthy housing) to the Department of Health and Family Support, and keeping the remaining Regulatory Services' functions (housing inspections, animal control and possibly traffic) concentrated in a new Department of Inspections. The City Coordinator, Paul Aasen, will lead a Transition Committee to develop more details and a process that I am hopeful will include seeking feedback from residents as well as from Regulatory Services staff and other stakeholders.
- 9) The proposal to merge the current Civilian Review Authority with the Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit is coming before the Council this Friday. I continue to oppose this idea, which I believe essentially dismantles civilian police oversight in Minneapolis. I will be putting forward three amendments to make this proposal slightly less bad. The first will increase the number of civilians on the Review Panels from 2 to 3, so that there will be more civilians than police officers on each panel. The second will allow complainants to choose to have their complaints investigated by civilians, rather than police officers. The last would reinstate the "firewall" that prohibits information on complaints from being shared with City staff who are not actively involved in the investigations. I am hopeful that these will pass, but even if they do I will continue to have serious concerns about the process and outcome related to this major change to civilian oversight of police.
- 10) The Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support has put together an event celebrating Summer 612, showcasing the efforts of talented Minneapolis youth to address youth violence in their communities. The event is on Saturday, September 22, from 2-5pm at the Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall. To RSVP, go to <http://summer612mpls.eventbrite.com>.
- 11) The Zombie Pub Crawl is scheduled for Saturday, October 13th. They are applying to close Cedar Avenue and the I-94 Exit to Cedar that evening, due to the large number of people who are expected to attend the event. After hearing concerns from some Cedar Avenue businesses, my office requested that they push the beginning of the street closure from 4pm to 6pm, and we are working to allow the closure to extend until midnight. The organizers have assured me they will provide good security, access through the area for residents and clean up following the event. The pub crawl has a very successful event for many West Bank bars and restaurants, and I hope they do well again this year. Please let me know if you have any concerns now, during the event or afterwards.
- 12) You still have time to take part in this year's One Minneapolis One read. This year, people are reading "Spirit Car: Journey to a Dakota Past," by Diane Wilson. The book is a collection of vignettes to honor the lives of Wilson's Dakota family. A community discussion with Garrison Keillor and Diane Wilson will be held on **Monday, September 24** at the Minneapolis Convention Center Auditorium. Tickets are \$10; \$5 for seniors, students and limited income (for those tickets, select the \$10 option and choose "apply discount" before purchasing), and are available at [www.ticketworks.com](http://www.ticketworks.com) or 612-343-3390. For more information and to get involved, visit [www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com](http://www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com), [www.facebook.com/OneMinneapolisOneRead](http://www.facebook.com/OneMinneapolisOneRead), [www.twitter.com/minneapolisread](http://www.twitter.com/minneapolisread) or email [oneread@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:oneread@minneapolismn.gov).
- 13) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Capital Long Range Improvement Committee, Charter Commission, Citizen Environmental Advisory Committee, Civil Rights Commission, Civilian Police Review Authority, Disabilities Advisory Committee, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing Board of Appeals, Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, Planning Commission, Public Health Advisory Committee, Senior Advisory Committee, Mpls Telecommunications Network, ThincGreen Advisory Committee, Uptown Special Service District, Youth Violence Prevention Committee, Zoning Board of Adjustment. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email [cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov).