10th Ward e-News

from Council Member Meg Tuthill

Shop local. Play local.

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Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm

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December 2012

Public Works and MPS Request Ideas on Safe Routes to School

The City of Minneapolis Public Works department and the Minneapolis Public Schools are seeking ideas from communities for the Safe Routes to School Program to apply for a grant from Minnesota Dept. of Transportation, which runs the program. The Safe Routes to School Program provides funding to local communities to make biking and walking routes to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.

Have ideas that you want to share? You can submit them on the BikeWalk Twin Cities Safe Routes to School webpage. The **deadline for submittal is Friday, December 21st.** You can direct questions to Shaun Murphy, Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator at Minneapolis Public Works, 612-333-2450; or Julie Danzl, Healthy Kids Focused Students Program Coordinator at Minneapolis Public Schools, Julie.Danzl@mpls.k12.mn.us.

Congratulations Police Chief Janeé Harteau

Congratulations to Chief Janeé Harteau who was sworn in as the new Minneapolis Police Chief on December 4th. It is a great honor to be a part of the City Council that appoints the first female Minneapolis police chief. Chief Harteau comes from a background of community policing and because of that, she really gets the importance of block clubs, crime prevention specialists, and the safety our residents, visitors and police department.

5th Precinct Changes

Chief Harteau has selected Inspector Matt Clark from the 5th precinct to become the Assistant Chief on her executive team. Former 5th precinct Inspector Eddie Frizell was selected by Chief Harteau to become the Deputy Chief of Patrol Bureau. Lieutenant Tony Diaz has been appointed as the new Inspector of the 5th precinct.

Congratulations to Assistance Chief Clark, Deputy Chief Frizell and Inspector Diaz!

36th Street Bikeway

Great news! Hennepin County Public Works staff has recommended the county fund the 36th Street Bikeway from Dupont Ave S to E Lake Calhoun Parkway in 2013. Hennepin County Commissioners will vote whether to award this funding in January. I am thrilled because I have been working on getting bike lanes implemented on 36th Street for over two years!

To learn more about this project, visit the 36th Street Bikeway Project website.

2013 Budget

The City Council approved the 2013 budget on December 12th. As in past years, I asked for your feedback on the proposed budget. Only a few comments were sent to me this year.

The 2013 approved budget includes a 1.77% levy. Two-thirds of residential property owners will see a reduction in the city portion of their property taxes in 2013.

The budget increases the number of fire fighters, police officers, and 911 operators. The 2013 budget maintains funding for the Domestic Abuse Prosecution team and for restorative justice work, both items I supported. The Mayor's initial proposed budget included a Health Impact Fee. I was not supportive of another fee imposed on many small businesses so I was pleased when the fee was removed from the Mayor's proposed budget.

Council Urges a Shift in Federal Spending Priorities

On December 7th, the City Council passed a resolution urging the federal government to shift spending priorities from military spending to meeting the essential needs of our local communities. Military spending is taking a bigger piece of federal spending while federal support for cities is being cut. Minneapolis has experienced a cut of over 30% in the federal governments Community Development Block Grants since 2002, making it more difficult for Minneapolis to fund basic services. The budget for veterans is separate from the military budget the council is seeking to cut. I fully support providing veterans with quality medical services, education, training and employment.

Click here to read the full resolution.

Year of the Dakota

A resolution recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the Dakota-U.S. War of 1862 was passed by the City Council on December 14th. The City Council designated the year from December 26, 2012 to December 26, 2013 as "The Year of the Dakota: Remembering, Honoring, and Truth-Telling." The War of 1862 led to the mass execution of 38 Dakota, the largest mass execution in the history of the United States. We have much to learn about the historical treatment of indigenous people in our city and state. The resolution urges the Dakota perspective be presented in discussions at forums, symposia, conferences and other events throughout the year. We need to discuss these complex issues in our history and promote the well-being and growth of the American Indian Community.

You can read the full resolution here.

Recreational Fire Recommendations

The **Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee** (CEAC) and the **Public Health Advisory Committee** (PHAC) **presented recommendations on recreational fires** to the city council's Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health committee on November 28th, 2012. The citizen committees had recommendations in three areas: stronger education and outreach about recreational fires; revising the city code to ban recreational fires on air quality alert days; and enhanced training for the Fire Department and other city staff.

To read what the full recommendations say, click here.

Single Sort Recycling Update

Single Sort recycling is going great in the areas that received carts during phase one! I have heard lots of positive comments from residents and am excited for it to be rolled out to the rest of the City this spring.

Snow Emergency Information

Residents, workers and visitors have a number of ways to learn when Snow Emergencies are declared and what to do when they are. All Minneapolis residents should have received a Snow Emergency brochure in the mail with details on Snow Emergency parking rules and ways to find out when a Snow Emergency has been declared. The City is advising drivers to put many of these tools to use, not just one or two. The more ways people use to learn about a Snow Emergency, the more prepared they will be to do their part, and the less likely they will be to be towed because they didn't know one was declared.

- **Hotline** - By calling the automated 612-348-SNOW hotline, folks can find out if a Snow Emergency has been declared. The hotline includes information in English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong.
- **The City's website** - Go to the City's Snow webpage to find out whether a Snow Emergency has been declared and for a wealth of information on Snow Emergencies in many languages. Also, check out the street lookup, which lets you put in an address or a neighborhood to see where you can park during a Snow Emergency.
- **Phone alerts** - Minneapolis uses a phone alert system to notify residents when Snow Emergencies are declared. If your landline or cellphone number isn't listed, you can add it to the alert system by signing up on the City's Snow Phone Alerts webpage.
- **Email/Text alerts** - You can sign up on the City's Snow Email/Text Alerts webpage to get Snow Emergency alerts automatically emailed and/or texted to you.
- **The media** - News releases are sent to the media so TV, radio stations and other news outlets can inform their viewers and listeners that a Snow Emergency is in effect.
- **Cable TV** - Tune in to cable channels 14 and 79.
- **Facebook** – "Like" Minneapolis Snow Emergency on Facebook.
- **Twitter** - If you have a Twitter account, just follow Minneapolis Snow Emergency.

Meet with Meg

As a reminder, beginning next month, **Meet with Meg will be held on the second Monday of the month**. Thank you for your flexibility with this change.

The next Meet with Meg will be held on **January 14th, 2013 from Noon-1pm at the 5th Precinct Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave S).** It will be a chance for you to ask me questions, and voice any concerns you may have. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided! Meet with Meg is held the second Tuesday of every month.

Attention: If you want help translating this information into a language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, please 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, llama 612-673-2700;
Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.