12TH WARD UPDATE

Minneapolis City Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy April 2006

Sign up for the monthly Update by sending an e-mail to: Sandra.Colvin.Roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Lake Street Reconstruction Begins Spring

Hennepin County is making a multi-million dollar investment in the reconstruction of Lake Street between Hiawatha and the River, the first project of its kind in almost 50 years. Businesses are also making significant investments in the project. Be prepared to encounter some obstacles as you drive, walk, or bike down East Lake Street this Spring, Summer and Fall, but please don't avoid the area because our businesses will need you.

The GOOD news:

- All East Lake Street businesses will remain open during construction months!
- East Lake Street will maintain one lane of traffic running in each direction.
- Buses will still be available – but will be rerouted to 31st St. For more info Call Metro Transit at (612) 373-3333

Things to keep in mind:

- There will be increased traffic on residential side-streets: watch for motorists.
- There will be no on-street parking on the portions of Lake St. that are under construction, until late fall 2006.
- Customers for East Lake Street businesses will need to park on nearby streets – please bear with them.

What can you do?

- Support your local businesses – bring your friends and family to East Lake Street
- Welcome visitors to the neighborhood who may need to park on your street.

Celebrate Earth Day 2006

Almost 1,000 people of all ages are expected to gather around the popular lakes, creeks and rivers of Minneapolis to gather garbage and celebrate Earth Day from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Saturday, April 22. Last year, 7,320 pounds of trash was collected from these areas. It is an easy way to make a big difference for our waterways. You can register the day of the event; gloves and garbage bags are provided for volunteers.

For more information, please contact the Earth Day 24-hour hotline at 612-313-7722, or visit www.minneapolisparks.org.
http://www.minneapolisparks.org/default.asp?PageID=52&prid=301

Clean-up locations in the 12th Ward include the Mississippi River (W River Road and 36th St) and Lake Nokomis and Hiawatha (Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy). I look forward to seeing another strong turnout from our community on the 22nd.

Armed Robbery Suspect Scheduled for Trial – Impact Statements Needed

A string of armed robberies in January generated a lot of fear in the Greater Longfellow Community. Aggressive work by the MPD led to the arrest of Ebrahim Mohammed for a number of these robberies. He will be in court on April 6 to face 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery charges.

The terrifying nature of these crimes put a lot of strain on the community and there was a great sense of relief when an arrest ended the robbery pattern. Residents should realize there is still work to be done. Terrorizing a community deserves serious consequences.

The community has a role in educating the judge and prosecutor when crimes impact our lives. Whether the crimes affected you directly as a victim or indirectly as a parent re-arranging your life to protect kids, it is important to tell the court system. You can easily do this at www.hennepinattorney.org/MplsPrecinctMap.asp. Click on the Third Precinct portion of the map. Then click on one of the Longfellow neighborhoods and scroll to the bottom of the page. There will be a link to submit comments about this case. Fill out the form with specific information about how these robberies negatively affected your life. Please join me in informing the County Prosecutor and Judge so their decisions will reflect the seriousness of these robberies.

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EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

Understand Your Property Taxes
City Assessor's Neighborhood Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 4 to 6:30 p.m.
Pearl Park, 414 East Diamond Lake Road

38th Street/Purina Steering Committee
April 12, 6:30 p.m.
Hiawatha Park, 4305 42nd St.

NENA Annual Meeting and Dinner
April 20, 7 p.m.
Minnehaha United Methodist – 3701 E. 50th St.

10 Year Transp. Action Plan Public Meeting
April 20, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
CWA Hall, 3521 East Lake St.

Earth Day Cleanup
Saturday, April 22, 9:30 a.m. to Noon
Various Locations – visit
www.minneapolisparks.org for more information

Open Libraries for Everyone Open Discussion on Challenges Facing our Library System
Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
5100 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis

LCC Annual Meeting and Dessert Potluck
April 26, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Patrick's Cabaret, 3010 Minnehaha Ave.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

SENA Board Meeting
1830 East 42nd Street
April 10, 7:00 p.m.
For more information, visit www.standish-ericsson.org

LCC Board Meeting
Hiawatha Park, 4305 East 42nd Street
April 20, 7:00 p.m.
For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA Board Meeting
3000 East 50th Street
April 27, 7:00 p.m.
For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

BOARD AND COMMISSION OPENINGS

- Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC) (closes 4/21/2006)

For more information, visit:
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/

2006 Minneapolis Blooms Day Event

Gardeners and would-be gardeners are invited to the 2006 Minneapolis Blooms Day Recognition & Educational Event on Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Logan Park Community Center (690 13th Ave. NE). Attendees will have the opportunity to get their gardening questions answered by Master Gardeners and plant experts. There will also be a free seed giveaway, rain garden educational workshop (from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.), and a sale of plants donated by gardener attendees that will benefit the Minneapolis Blooms Program.

Minneapolis Blooms is also sponsoring workshops on rain gardens with native plants. The workshops in our area are already filled, but you can get on the waiting list, and find out more about Blooms Day by visiting www.minneapolisblooms.org.

SENA Plans for Land along LRT

How can the neighborhood shape future development that will be fueled by the LRT? That is a central question for all neighborhoods along LRT, and based on the number of planning process that have already happened (Master Planning at 46th St. Station Area), are in process (38th Street/Purina and 50th Street VA station areas), and are planned for the near future (Implementation Study for 46th St. Station Area), it is clear a lot of resources and volunteer time has been invested in planning for the future.

The Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association is teaming with the City of Minneapolis, a technical team of development consultants, design experts, and facilitators to connect development opportunities with neighborhood goals. The team will work with residents in four meetings to create a plan for development along LRT in the Standish Ericsson Neighborhood.

What Does the Neighborhood Want to Achieve Through Development?
Tuesday, April 11, 2006, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Sibley Neighborhood Center (1900 E 40th Street)

Transit's Potential to Shape Community along the Hiawatha Corridor: A Community Discussion
April 19, 2006, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 E 42nd Street
Hosted by the Center for Transit Oriented Development, Urban Land Institute, Transit for Livable Communities

Exploring Development Options
Tuesday, April 25, 2006, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Sibley Neighborhood Center (1900 E 40th Street)

Panel conversation with developers, Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development staff, and neighborhood leaders.
Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Sibley Neighborhood Center (1900 E 40th Street)