



City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

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AIRPORT LAWSUIT: JUDGE'S RULING A VICTORY—TRIAL BEGINS SOON

Minneapolis, Eagan, and Richfield won important points in our suit against the MAC. The lawsuit asserts that MAC agreed to do full noise mitigation (repair/replace windows and exterior doors, additional insulation, etc.) for homes in the 60-64 DNL contours when they sought state approval to keep the airport where it is, and federal approval to build the new runway.

"This court cannot allow the MAC to receive the benefits of a long fought over public bargain and then abandon its repeated commitments upon which so many people have relied."

**Hennepin County District Judge Stephen Aldrich
Ruling January 25, 2007**

In 2004 MAC changed their policy to offer only partial funding for air conditioning in those homes (requiring the property owner to pay for half). After exhausting every other option, the cities filed suit in 2005 to force MAC to keep their word.

I have always believed that this is the fair and just thing to do for the residents who, as Judge Aldrich said in his ruling, "carry the burden of airport noise for the rest of the state."

On Jan. 25, **Judge Aldrich** ruled in favor of the cities on some important points. His ruling is a significant victory, finding that the **MAC committed to provide mitigation to the 60-64 DNL contours to the same level as the 65 DNL and greater contours and that the MAC's commitment to provide sound insulation is enforceable as an environmental standard.**

While this is an important victory, it is not the final ruling. The trial is scheduled to begin in February. We feel very confident that our arguments are legally sound and in the best interest of our city and our environment. I will keep you updated as the trial progresses.

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Minneapolis City Council directed staff to prepare a Community Engagement Report (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/docs/CE_Report_final.pdf) to consider how the city might improve the way in which city departments engage the community as part of their work, especially those residents being directly affected. The report was released last fall, shortly before the holiday season. To allow for more people to participate in the discussion, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board agreed to co-sponsor community meetings with the City.

The public meetings (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20061121CE_Report.asp) have been scheduled at various locations to reach a broad cross-section of community stakeholders and advertised in neighborhood papers.

Residents can also participate in an on-line survey (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/docs/CE_SurveyJan07.pdf) to give their input on how they would like to see the City engage them in its decision making. The deadline for public comment and completed surveys is Thursday, February 8, 2007.

12TH WARD OPENING ON THE CAPITAL LONG RANGE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Capital Long Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) is responsible for reviewing and prioritizing approximately 120 capital budget requests submitted by City Departments, Independent Boards and Commissions of the City. The final work product is a five-year capital program recommendation that goes to the Mayor and City Council.

CLIC is an influential part of the budget process and a great opportunity to serve the city. One of the two 12th Ward appointments is currently vacant. Interested individuals can visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/ for more information, including an approximate meeting schedule.

Please send me an e-mail if you would like to be considered for the appointment. The continuing member resides in Longfellow, so I am especially interested in applicants from SENA or NENA neighborhoods.

EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

Hiawatha Falls Liquors Community Meeting

Tuesday, February 5th—6:30 to 8:30
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 East 42nd Street

What's Happening at 46th and 46th

Thursday, February 22 - 6:30 p.m.
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 East 42nd Street

50th Street Reconstruction Meeting

Monday, February 12 - 7 p.m.
Minnehaha United Methodist - 3701 E 50th St.

East Lake Library Reopening

The grand reopening of the fully renovated and expanded East Lake Library is set for Saturday, **March 3, beginning at 12:30 p.m. with an outdoor gathering and ribbon-cutting at 1 pm.**

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

SENA Board Meeting

Monday, February 12, 7:00 p.m.
SENA office - 1830 E. 42nd St.
For more information, visit www.standish-ericsson.org

LCC Board Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Hiawatha Park
For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA Board Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.
3000 East 50th Street
For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

OPEN APPOINTMENTS

Visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/ for more information

- Minneapolis Capital Long-range Improvement Committee (closes 2/9/2007)
- Minneapolis Charter Commission (closes 2/16/07)

ROOSEVELT LIBRARY HOMEWORK HELPER MOVES TO HIAWATHA YMCA

The Homework Helper program has moved from the closed Roosevelt Library to the Hiawatha YMCA at 4100 28th Avenue South. Homework Helpers will be available Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 p.m. to 6p.m.

GOOD JOBS + GOOD ENVIRONMENT = GREEN MANUFACTURING

With the closing of the Ford plant in Highland Park imminent, David Foster, Chair of the Blue Green Alliance, called together local environmental and union leaders and the mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul last December. As vice-chair of a national group working to affect federal policy, I attended. We talked of economic opportunity presented by new industries needed to supply the growing demand for renewable energy and sustainable building.

Mayors Rybak and Coleman co-chair the Mayors' Initiative on Green Manufacturing, whose goal is to position our cities as national leaders in promoting and developing green manufacturing technologies and products, while creating good jobs.

We met on Jan 17 to agree on principles and begin the work. The Mayors' Initiative is guided by the principle that investments in solving critical environmental challenges such as global warming represent strategic economic opportunities for the future.

Foster figures the need for steel and taconite to make enough wind turbines to meet the Governor's goal for renewable energy just in MN would keep a taconite mine and a steel mill employed for a year. UAW, Carpenters and Building Trades representatives are as enthusiastic about the possibilities as the Steelworkers.

COLVIN ROY NAMED TO NATIONAL LEADERSHIP - ENERGY A TOP PRIORITY FOR NATION'S CITIES

For five years I've served on the steering committee for Energy, Environment and Natural Resources for the National League of Cities (an organization of 8,000 cities representing municipal interests at the federal level.) This month I was appointed Vice-chair by NLC President Bart Peterson, mayor of Indianapolis.

In December, the membership adopted a new principle for Climate Change, and added to the policy our organization will advocate for, "The federal government must develop policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to halt potentially irreversible effects on the global environment." It was exciting to hear thousands of voices in approval for the new policy.

Your reaction may be, 'of course, what took so long?' Well, committee members come from across the country, from cities of all sizes, and with widely differing political viewpoints. Consider that when "sustainability" was mentioned in my first year, a fight broke out among the committee. "Global warming", the same.

I am proud to be a part of the team that broadened understanding among elected officials of this serious threat and moved our cities to take leadership in urging Congress for federal action.