

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Cedar Riverside, 9-20-06

Cam's next Cedar Riverside Office Hours:
Tuesday, October 3, 9:30-11:00am
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave

Items:

- I. Second Ward Survey
- II. Central Corridor Roundtable Discussion
- III. Energy Challenge Kickoff
- IV. Nomination of Interim Chief Dolan
- V. Arsenic
- VI. Ending Youth Violence
- VII. CRA work group outcome
- VIII. Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan process
- IX. New Second Ward Website
- X. Department of Peace
- XI. IRV

- I. My office has already received over 90 responses to the Second Ward Survey, but I'd like to hear more from Cedar Riverside. Please take a moment to fill out a blue card or you can fill it out on the Ward 2 website: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward2/>. If you have already completed a survey, please ask a neighbor to do the same.
- II. As part of my ongoing series of roundtable discussions on issues important to the Second Ward, I will be hosting a forum on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line on Thursday, September 21st, 7-9pm at Saint Francis Cabrini Church, 1500 Franklin Ave SE (2 blocks east of the River), in Garvey Hall.
- III. The Minneapolis Energy Challenge will kick off on Friday, October 13th. There will be a series of workshops in the neighborhoods over the next few months that I will bring to your attention. I ask WBCC to actively reach out to Cedar Riverside residents and ask that they participate in the Energy Challenge. If we work together, we can meet our common, aggressive goals for Carbon Dioxide emission reduction. After October first, visit the www.mnenergychallenge.org website to see what steps you can take. I look forward to working with you on this.
- IV. Mayor RT Rybak has nominated Interim Chief Tim Dolan to be Chief. I am undecided on this nomination at this point. I welcome your input on this crucial decision – what do you think of the current status of the Minneapolis Police Department and Interim Chief Dolan?
- V. Next Tuesday, September 26th, the Environmental Protection Agency will hold a very important meeting to gather public input on the level of arsenic contamination they will clean up in South Minneapolis. I invite WBCC to join me in asking them to clean up all yards with contamination above 10 parts per million (ppm). I also ask for your support on the ordinance I will be introducing this Friday, requiring that tenants and homebuyers receive information about soil contamination.

- VI.** The “Ending Youth Violence in our Community” group has met for the last time. They have recommended a joint resolution of the City Council, Hennepin County Board, Park & Recreation Board, School Board and others, identifying youth violence as a preventable public health problem and calling for the formation of a permanent steering committee for the effort to eradicate youth violence. I am thrilled that we are moving in this direction, and will be a forceful advocate for this fundamental change in attitudes. To see a draft copy of the “Highways to Hope” model, please contact my office.
- VII.** The CRA work group gathered extremely valuable input from the community at the August 30 meeting at Brian Coyle Center. The group has finished its work, including one last recommendation that the City pursue subpoena power for the CRA. The full list of recommendations now goes to the Council. You can view the recommendations here: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cra/docs/CRA_WorkingGroupReport.pdf
- VIII.** The Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan Steering Committee has been formed, and will hold its first official meeting on October 11th, at Augsburg College. I am extremely excited for this project to begin. For more information, contact Beth Elliott at 673-2442 or go here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/cedar-riverside.asp>.
- IX.** The Second Ward website has a new look. Check it out here: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward2/>. Please let my office know if there are changes or additions you would like us to make to the Cedar Riverside page.
- X.** The resolution I co-authored supporting federal legislation calling for the creation of a United States Department of Peace and Non-Violence passed the City Council on 8/18.
- XI.** As I have mentioned, Instant Runoff Voting will be on this year’s general election ballot. There is a new explanatory video available online here: <http://www.betterballotcampaign.org/BBC/video>