

# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to WBCC, 7-20-06

Cam's next Cedar Riverside Office Hours:  
Tuesday, August 1, 9:30-11:00am  
Hard Times Café, 1821 Riverside Ave

## Items:

- I. Community Engagement Forum 7-25-06
- II. Cedar Riverside Cameras
- III. CRA Work Group
- IV. Parking Lots A, B, C
- V. Stadium Area Advisory Group
- VI. University Impact on Neighborhoods Report
- VII. Small Area Plan Updates
- VIII. Openings on City Boards and Commissions

**I.** As part of my ongoing series of roundtable discussions on issues important to the Second Ward, I will be hosting a forum on community engagement. It will be held on **Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at Brackett Park, 2728 39th Ave S.** In the months ahead the City Council will consider ways to improve citizen participation. At the same time, many neighborhood organizations are struggling to survive and the future of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program is in question. We will be discussing these and other important questions:

- **How can we involve more people in City decisions?**
- **How can the City better support neighborhood organizations in their important work?**
- **How will citizen participation efforts and neighborhood groups be funded in the future?**
- **How can neighborhoods better support the work of City Hall?**
- **How can we all be more inclusive of those who too often go underrepresented in our meetings?**

**II.** I am working hard to convince my colleagues to support SafeZone cameras for the Cedar Riverside neighborhood. West Bank activists' hard work and organization should be recognized and rewarded, not capriciously discarded. Some of my colleagues remain unconvinced, however, so if you have any time and energy to put into this issue, please call or email the following Council Members and urge them to vote for public safety:

Diane Hofstede (673-2203), Lisa Goodman (673-2207), Elizabeth Glidden (673-2208), Gary Schiff (673-2209), Ralph Remington (673-2210) Scott Benson (673-2211), Sandy Colvin Roy (673-2212)

Thank-you calls to the Council Members who have committed to vote in favor of public safety for Cedar Riverside would also be appreciated: Paul Ostrow (673-2201), Barbara Johnson (673-2204), Don Samuels (673-2205), Robert Lilligren (673-2206) and Betsy Hodges (673-2213).

- III.** The Civilian Police Review Authority work group that I helped form has made several very important recommendations, including: removing the Internal Affairs Unit (or other) review or investigation of CRA sustained cases, establishing a process for administrative dismissal of complaints, formalizing the process for the CRA to recommend changes to the MPD's Policies and Procedures manual, initiating an audit of the Internal Affairs Unit, directing a staff group to work on an Early Intervention System, appointing Deputy Chief Lubinski as CRA liaison and changing the format for CRA output.

Written comments on any of the CRA work groups recommendations may be sent to Natalie Collins at [natalie.collins@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:natalie.collins@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) or 350 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Room 307, Minneapolis, MN 55415. The City will hold at least one additional public hearing (date to be announced) associated with any recommended ordinance changes.

- IV.** Imperial Parking Inc. has been managing three of the largest parking lots (A, B, and C) on the West Bank for years. The City's Agreement with Imperial is set to end December 31, 2006 and the City Council is planning to go forward with a Request for Proposals to select a parking lot operator to take over management of the lots January 1, 2007. The RFP will be issued in July with a response date of September 1. Staff will return to Council with a recommendation in November. Proposals will outline proposers' qualifications, identify location of parking systems office, and provide a proposed plan for operations, staffing, security, startup, marketing and management of the lots.
- V.** There is a seat set aside for a Cedar Riverside representative on the University Stadium Area Advisory Group. Though I realize that many of the issues the SAAG deals with are on the East Bank, I encourage WBCC to send a rep to the group by contacting Jan Morlock at (612) 624-8318 and [jam@umn.edu](mailto:jam@umn.edu).
- VI.** As part of the state legislation that funded the Gopher Stadium the City, the University and the SAAG have been also been directed to draft a report more generally "on the impact of the university on the surrounding community and the relationship of the community to the university" and evaluate "the direct and indirect impacts of the university on the surrounding community, addressing issues of public safety, transportation, and housing quality, availability, and affordability." The involvement of Cedar Riverside in the drafting of this report will be critical to its success.
- VII.** There are openings on the Civil Rights Commission and the Civilian Police Review Authority. The Civil Rights Commission was created to implement the City's Civil Rights policies through public information and education; mediation and conciliation; and enforcement. The Civilian Police Review Authority was created to provide fair and impartial investigation of citizen allegations of misconduct on the part of officers of the Minneapolis Police Department and make conclusions based on findings of fact.

For more information on these two openings or for applications, call 612-673-3358 or visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/>. Both of these openings will close on July 28.