

# Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to the Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood, 4-23-07

Cam's next Prospect Park Office Hours:  
Pratt School, Tuesday May 15, 9:30-11am

## Items:

- 1) Roundtable: NRP & Neighborhood Orgs
- 2) Waste Management Facility meeting
- 3) Dining Out for Life
- 4) YCB "Out of School Time" Event
- 5) Summer Interns
- 6) Bike to Work Day, May 18
- 7) Block Clubs
- 8) Community Engagement
- 9) Minneapolis *Greenprint*
- 10) McMansions
- 11) Civil Rights Director
- 12) Eastside Neighborhood Services
- 13) Maximum Occupancy
- 14) Paint-a-Thon
- 15) Youth Violence Steering Committee
- 16) Wind Turbines
- 17) River Mews Court
- 18) Openings on Boards and Commissions

- 1) Please join me, City Coordinator Steven Bosacker and others for a Roundtable Discussion **Thursday, May 24, 7-8:30 pm, Matthews Park, 2318 28th Ave S** on Neighborhood Organizations and NRP: What now? What next? The City Council is taking a look at Neighborhood Organizations and the future of NRP. How can the City do a better job of supporting the work of neighborhood organizations? How can we help shape the future of citizen participation in city government and the future of neighborhood revitalization in Minneapolis?
- 2) I will be hosting a meeting tomorrow night, **April 24<sup>th</sup>, at Prospect Park United Methodist Church from 7:30-9:00pm** to discuss the proposed **City/County Solid Waste Management Facility** at 620 Malcolm Ave SE. City staff, both in Public Works and CPED, will be available to answer your questions and hear your concerns.
- 3) Please join me for a **Dining Out for Life** lunch at the **Cliquot Club, 2929 East 25<sup>th</sup> St, on Thursday, April 26, 2007**. A percentage of the proceeds of your meal will go to benefit all the services for HIV-infected individuals offered by the Aliveness Project. There are a large number of participating restaurants this year, offering breakfast, lunch and dinner, including several in the Second Ward: Birchwood Café, Seward Café and Pizza Luce in Seward, Tam-Tam's and St. Martin's Table on the West Bank, Espresso Expose near the U and the Cupcake in Prospect Park. For more information, please go to <http://www.aliveness.org/>.
  - 4) On May 3, the Youth Coordinating Board will host an "Out of School Time" event for providers of youth programs.
  - 5) My office will be hiring up to three interns to do outreach and organizing work on block clubs, crime & safety committees, and community events, including a "welcome to the neighborhood" event for new student renters this fall. Interns will work 10-20 hours per week, for a wage of \$12.09/hr. If you know anyone who might be interested, please have them contact my office.

- 6) Join your neighbors for the Prospect Park Bike to Work Day ride into downtown on Friday, May 18, leaving the intersection of Franklin Avenue and East River Parkway at 7am. My Aide will be leading a ride as well, from the Birchwood Café in Seward. For more information, go here: [www.tcbikewalktowork.org](http://www.tcbikewalktowork.org).
- 7) If you don't have a block club on your block and would like to form one, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct SAFE Office is holding a free Block Leader Training workshop on **Wednesday, April 25, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the 3rd Precinct Community Room, 3000 Minnehaha Ave.** You must RSVP to attend – call 673-2856.
- 8) On **April 26, 2007** the Minneapolis City Council Committee of the Whole will hear a summary of the **Community Engagement Report** and the public's feedback, at 10:00 am in the Council Chamber, Room 317, City Hall. The Council Committee will then discuss next steps to improve the City's community engagement system, including its relationship with neighborhood organizations and with the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). The NRP Policy Board has also released its report on the Minneapolis Community Engagement system. You can download that report here: <http://www.nrp.org/R2/AboutNRP/PB/PBAgenda2007/PBA20070326.html>.
- 9) The Minneapolis *Greenprint*, the 2007 report on the ten environmental sustainability indicators, is now available. Go here to see it online: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20070413GreenPrint.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20070413GreenPrint.asp), or contact my office for a physical copy. The report on the rest of the Minneapolis sustainability indicators will be coming out this summer.
- 10) I am supportive of Council Member Betsy Hodges' proposed ordinance to address teardowns and "McMansions," which will establish a "gross floor area" maximum, based on the size of a lot. My hope is that this can be a new tool for preventing small single family homes from being torn down and replaced with oversize de-facto "dorms." I am open to working with Southeast residents to strengthen the proposed language, if needed, to make it an effective tool for this purpose.
- 11) Mayor Rybak has decided to nominate Michael Jordan to be the Minneapolis Civil Rights Director. I am undecided at this point as to whether I will support this nomination. While Mr. Jordan has a respectable resume and will bring strong managerial skills to the position, he has a history of working in law enforcement, both Police Department. As one of the chief functions of the Civil Rights Department is to hold the MPD accountable, I am concerned that his experience in law enforcement might not be appropriate. I would welcome any comments you might have.
- 12) I am working with the Park Board, MPHA and Eastside Neighborhood Services to find a way for ENS to keep doing their good work on behalf of Glenwood residents in Luxton Park.
- 13) The group I have set up to talk about possible reforms to the Minneapolis Maximum Occupancy codes has met twice. We have reviewed the current codes, laid out our goals for "ideal" maximum occupancy regulations and studied how Minneapolis has regulated occupancy in the past and other municipalities regulate it today. I will widely communicate any outcomes of the Work Group to the neighborhoods, before proposing any reforms.
- 14) The deadline to apply for the 2007 Greater Metropolitan Council of Churches Paint-A-Thon is May 11<sup>th</sup>. For an application, call 721-8687 x321, or email [dpope@gmcc.org](mailto:dpope@gmcc.org) as Commissioner of Public Safety under Arne Carlson and as the spokesperson for the Saint Paul
- 15) The Youth Violence Steering Committee, which I helped form and on which I represent the Council, has met twice now. We are expected to have a draft report ready by August.
- 16) The wind turbine ordinance I sponsored passed the City Planning Commission by consent this afternoon. It will now go through the Zoning & Planning Committee and finally to the full Council.
- 17) East River Mews residents' application to name the street within the development "River Mews Court" also passed the City Planning Commission by consent this afternoon.
- 18) There are openings on the the Housing Board of Appeals, the Public Health Advisory Committee, and the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email [cityclerk@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)