



City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

Sign up for the monthly Update by sending an e-mail to sandra.colvin.roy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

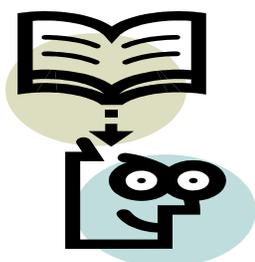
In the last issue I asked for your opinion about the proposal for a new street lighting plan and many of you answered. Thanks to all who have contacted me regarding the plan, elements you like and the (pretty much) universally disliked fee program. Now it is time for policy makers to talk about what we have heard and then decide what happens next. I will be taking your comments into a City Council Study Session on Nov 30th.

Your feedback on Community Engagement has been invaluable, whether you attended a community meeting or sent me an e-mail. Staff and an advisory committee are using what they have heard to finalize recommendations that will be presented to City Council on Nov 15th. I am meeting soon with representatives from 12th ward neighborhood groups to discuss NRP more directly. They have been operating in an impossible environment where the funding they can expect changes unpredictably. The changes are due to changes in the value of property underlying the Tax Increment Financing district whose payments fund NRP and the problem of projecting tax value over a number of years. This makes budgeting or strategic planning unworkable. And most changes have meant a decline in the amount of money available for Phase II of NRP. We, the Council and Mayor, need to come to a resolution soon so that residents know what the City has committed to this community improvement program.

Annual budget hearings are in full swing at the Ways & Means Committee on which I serve and I've heard at least one very encouraging thing: Fire Chief Clack plans to return a ladder to Station 21 on 38th Street! The Mayor has recommended some additional funds for this. I fought successfully to keep the ladder for years, finally losing it after the LGA cuts. I will be looking hard for the rest of the funding needed. ~ Sandy

Next Chapter at Roosevelt Library

You may have noticed people working at the Roosevelt Library recently. They are preparing for the reopening by painting, cleaning, and rearranging furniture and shelves. Soon, staff will be spending time there training and preparing to serve the residents beginning in January. Expect to hear of a re-opening party soon.



Stop Graffiti Now!

On average, 1,127 graffiti incidents are reported every month. These crimes lower neighborhood appeal and can drive away prospective home-buyers. Perhaps worst of all, gang members use graffiti to promote themselves. Covering up graffiti takes away this gang tool and shows that residents aren't ceding their neighborhood to criminals.

The Stop Graffiti Now! Reward Program is one part of the City's effort to wipe out graffiti. The initiative has three parts: (1) citizen rewards for reporting graffiti crimes in progress; (2) a special City enforcement effort to ensure that no retailer is selling spray paint to minors; and (3) a retailer compliance education program to prevent theft of potential graffiti tools or their illegal sale to minors.

The Stop Graffiti Now! Reward Program is a partnership between The National Council to Prevent Delinquency, the MN Paint Council, the Mpls Police Department, local businesses and concerned citizens. The reward program pays citizens for reporting graffiti vandalism to any property in progress if it leads to an arrest and conviction.

- If you see a vandal applying graffiti to a home or a business—call 911
- Provide your name and contact information to police
- If possible, take a picture of the vandal in action (Do not make contact with the vandal—just call 911)
- Complete a Graffiti Reward Program Claim Form and submit
- If your call leads to a conviction, you could receive up to \$500

For additional info contact Inspector Kristine Arneson at 612-673-5504 or kristine.arneson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us, or go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/graffiti.

EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

School Building ReUse-Opportunities to discuss options for closed schools

Thurs, Nov 1, 6:30-8:30pm, Cooper Elementary School, at Longfellow Park, 3435 – 36th Ave S.

Sat, Nov 3, 10:00-12:00am, Howe Community School, at Longfellow Park, 3435 – 36th Ave S.

Sat, Nov 3, 1:30-3:30pm, Morris Park Elementary School, at Morris Park, 5531 – 39th Ave S.

Joint Public Hearing Wed, Nov 7, 6pm, at the Downtown Library, Doty Board Room.

Nov 30 is the last day to see **Water Power Park** this year. Given the recent rains, St. Anthony Falls is back to roaring, so if you haven't had a chance to check out the new Water Power Park, this would be a great time! The new walkway on Xcel land takes you right out over the falls. Enter off Main Street right across from St. Anthony Main. The park is open from dawn until dusk.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

LCC Board Meeting - Thurs., Nov 15, 7- 9 p.m.

For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA Board Meeting - Thurs., Nov 29, 7p.m.

For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

SENA Board Meeting –Mon, Nov 12, 7- 8:30

pm. For more information, visit www.standish-ericsson.org.

Nov 7th Hearing on Library Merger

The City Council and Library Board will hold a joint public hearing Nov. 7, 6 pm at the Downtown Library. Interested citizens, patrons, and customers are encouraged to bring questions and comments about the potential consolidation of City and County Library systems to the hearing. In order to allow a large number of persons to express their opinion, speakers will be asked to use no more than three minutes. For more info, please visit <http://www.hclib.org/merger/FactSheetAug2007.pdf>.

WATERSHED RECOGNIZES NENA WORK

On Oct 26th, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District celebrated 40 years of watching over our public waters. The event also honored citizens and organizations that have made significant contributions to water quality. The Outstanding Contribution Award went to Raymond Haik, who wrote MN's law to create watershed based management with enforcement power. The Citizen Engagement Award was given to Nokomis East Neighborhood Assoc for the initiative in starting the Blue Water Partnership and for restoring the shoreline of Lake Nokomis and an adjacent prairie. It was accepted by Vicki Bonk, on behalf of the many volunteers who contributed over the years.

CHANGE A LIGHT, CHANGE THE WORLD

Replacing incandescent fluorescent bulbs can make And if enough people reduce our nation's the ambitious goal be- "Change a Light, Change supplies last, local stores low-normal prices. Some dollar each. **In the 12th**



light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs can make a dent in your energy bills. make the switch, it can help energy consumption. That's hind the nationwide "the World" promotion. While will offer several models at be- bulbs will be priced as low as a a Ward, discounted cfl bulbs can be found at Hudson's Ace Hardware, 2900 East 42nd Street. But remember, fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and cannot be thrown out with regular garbage. Some hardware stores accept them for recycling for a small fee, they can be taken free of charge to the South Hennepin Recycling Facility at 1400 W. 96th St in Bloomington or saved for the annual Hennepin Hazardous Waste pick-up in the fall.

CLEAN STREETS MEAN CLEAN WATER

Over the next few weeks, street sweepers will brush off more than 1,100 miles of streets, curb-to-curb. Temporary "No Parking" signs will be posted at least 24 hours before a scheduled cleaning. On the day of the sweeping, parking will be banned from 7 am to 4:30 pm. Don't park on these streets during this time or your vehicle may be ticketed and towed to the Impound Lot. If you want to know when your turn is coming, go to <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetsweep>. Then, on the weekend before your street's cleaning, come back to the Web site and find out which day of the week the sweeping is planned.

Sweeping allows for better plowing when snow arrives and prevents leaves and debris from clogging our storm drains. Because decomposing leaves that end up in our lakes fertilize harmful aquatic plants and algae, keeping leaves out of storm drains will improve water quality.

BITS AND PIECES

WIMG AWARD The National League of Cities has named CM Colvin Roy as a Finalist for the Women In Municipal Government (WIMG) award. Her leadership with issues such as storm water, light rail, and the recent bridge failure, as well as her mentoring of other women at City Hall have been outstanding, and now, recognized at the national level.

A **BIKE PATH** improvement at Lake Street and W. River Pkwy will soon make the intersection much safer and easier to ride on. The need for these improvements were discovered late in the larger Lake Street construction project and brought to the attention of this office by several bikers concerned about the path. Funding will be shared by the City and County.