



City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

# 12th Ward Update

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## MINNEAPOLIS AND METRO AREA RECEIVE HIGHEST MARKS FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

From the federal government down to municipal government, the terrorist attacks on 9-11-01 taught many lessons. One of the clearest lessons for local units of government was the absolute necessity of a communications system for emergency responders that could work both between the different departments within the same organization and with partners in the same area.

Work began in earnest to beef up our communications system after 9-11. The backbone of the technology had already been started when the City Council made a large investment (which did not enjoy unanimous support on the Council) in an 800 megahertz radio system. What wasn't in place was the operations side of the communication equation. This includes governance, operations, and usage of the systems.

A review by the Department of Homeland Security rated the Twin Cities Metro at the highest level of maturity in these three areas. We have established a governance council (which has developed a strategic plan, goals, and diverse funding streams), created standard operating procedures, and are using the communications systems. The City of St. Paul, Ramsey and Dakota Counties are adding 800 MHz this year.)

The investment and hard work by all levels of government brought these great results. I hope we are never faced with a catastrophe like 9-11, but if such an event does occur, this work will undoubtedly give everyone the best chance to respond safely and effectively.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF 311		
Rank	Service Request	# of Requests
1	Graffiti	9,631
2	Exterior Nuisance Complaint	7,976
3	Abandoned Vehicle	6,815
4	Animal Complaint	5,041
5	Parking Violation	4,119
6	Residential Conditions Complaint	3,700
7	Sidewalk Snow/Ice Complaint	2,461
8	Street Light Trouble	1,648
9	Abandoned Vehicle	1,221
10	Pothole	1,151

## NEW MINNEAPOLIS WEB SITE MAKES CITY GOVERNMENT EASIER TO NAVIGATE

The City of Minneapolis begins the new year with a new, redesigned Web site ([www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us)). The site not only makes it easier for Web users to get information, but it also better reflects the beauty, creativity, and energy of Minneapolis .

New features on the Web site include:

- Content organized from the user's perspective, not based on City departments and divisions.
- Dynamic menus that allow users to easily drill down into content categories.
- Prominently placed information in Spanish, Somali, and Hmong.
- Improved accessibility for visually impaired visitors, and those who cannot use a traditional computer mouse.
- New opportunities to highlight top City news stories for Web visitors.
- Dynamic photographs that promote the beauty and vibrancy of Minneapolis.

## EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

### Third Precinct Block Leader Trainings

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Tuesday, March 20.

The two-hour sessions all begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. here at 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha, in the community room. If you can call and discuss training and forming a block club with your crime prevention specialist, we will reserve a spot for you. CPS assignments can be found at: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf)

### NENA Town Meeting - Community Engagement

Tuesday, Jan 30, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 E 50th St

### Hiawatha Falls Liquors Community Meeting

Tuesday, February 5th—6:30 to 8:30

Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd Street East

## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

### LCC Board Meeting

Thursday, January 18, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Hiawatha Park

For more information, visit [www.longfellow.org](http://www.longfellow.org)

### NENA Board Meeting

Thursday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

3000 East 50th Street

For more information, visit [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org)

## OPEN APPOINTMENTS

Visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/) for more information

- [Senior Citizen Advisory Committee \(closes 1/31/2007\)](#)
- [Minneapolis Private Industry/Workforce Council \(PIWC\) \(closes 1/12/2007\)](#)
- [Minneapolis Telecommunications Network \(MTN\) \(Closes 1-12-07\)](#)
- [Pedestrian Advisory Committee \(closes 1/16/2007\)](#)
- [Public Health Advisory Committee Ward 12 Vacancy \(closes 2/2/2007\)](#)

## PROPOSED LIQUOR STORE COMMUNITY MEETING

A new liquor store is being proposed for the Parkway Plaza strip mall (between Dominos and Subway) near 46th Street and Hiawatha Avenue. The purpose of the meeting is to give information and to collect public comment about the application

### Hiawatha Falls Liquor Community Meeting

Tuesday, February 5th—6:30 to 8:30

Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd Street East

## RECENT ROBBERIES NEAR LRT STATIONS

Minneapolis Police have identified a pattern of robberies near LRT stations this winter. MPD has spent more time patrolling these areas with marked squads and undercover officers. Metro Transit Police have also increased presence at LRT platforms. Four juveniles and one adult have been arrested as a result of investigations into robberies in the areas near LRT stations.

**Please be aware of your surroundings when walking to and from LRT Stations. Don't carry more valuables than you need and call 911 if you see anything suspicious.**

## EFFORTS IN ST. PAUL IMPORTANT TO THE CITY

Our relationship with other levels of government is undeniably important to the health of our city. Every year the City Council works with our Intergovernmental Relations staff to establish a legislative agenda. The purpose of the legislative agenda is to build a consensus among Council Members and the Mayor about our priorities and to give direction to our staff as they work at the capitol. Issues are arranged in nine categories such as local government finance, public safety, environment and affordable housing. Within each of these categories are priority issues for Minneapolis, issues that we support, and issues we oppose.

Priority issues are the items of greatest importance for the city and issues we take a leadership position on at the legislature. The top two priority issues for Minneapolis at this year's legislative session are municipal finance (i.e. property tax relief via restoration of LGA) and public safety (i.e. adequate state funding for the entire criminal justice system and an improved approach for locating released sex offenders). Minneapolis will take an active role in talking to state officials and working with our partners across the state to send this message to the legislature.

Items on the support portion of the legislative agenda are issues that we will be working on with a coalition of supporters. Generally another organization is taking the lead position on the issue and we are listed as a supporter of the proposal.

Finally, there are opposition issues. These issues are usually ideas brought to other organizations that would have a negative impact on Minneapolis specifically, or city governments in general. There are always lots of ideas floating around the capitol and sometimes keeping the bad proposals from becoming law is just as important as promoting the good ideas for our city.