



City of Minneapolis — Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

12th Ward Update

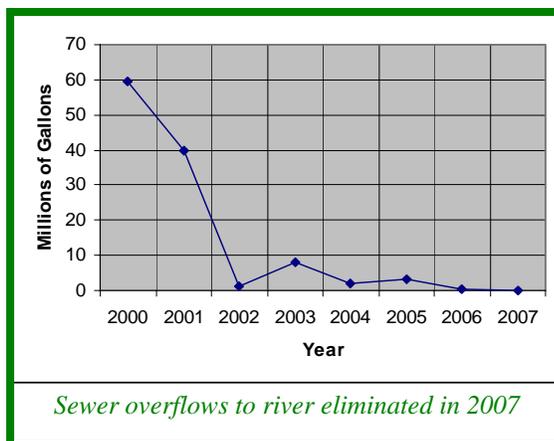
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Across the country cities are struggling to keep their old sewer systems from sending untreated sewage into rivers, so the news that in 2007 Minneapolis achieved a year with NO overflows into the Mississippi - the first time since the 1880's - is really worth celebrating! For the past eight years our City Council has supported an aggressive, multi-pronged strategy of changes to the way we handle stormwater and together those many changes brought great results for our river.

I have written before about Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's) and how they are the result of too much stormwater entering our sanitary sewer system during a rain event, causing a backflow that carries untreated sewage into the river. The City's sewers were originally built to carry both storm water and waste water, causing huge mats of floating sewage on the river until the first treatment plant was built at Pig's Eye in the 1930's. After that, the city built separate systems for storm and waste water and in the 1980's, began an accelerated program to separate the old ones, but not all pipes were separated. In 1999, the City Council adopted the first stormwater management ordinance. Later, we adopted a program to systematically inspect more than 21,000 properties and, where necessary, to remove rainleaders connected to the sanitary system. Every year the City inspects pipes during street reconstruction projects to locate and remove any cross connections and through the work of former Cong. Martin Sabo, EPA has funded several projects at critical areas so that rainwater is no longer directed into sanitary sewers. Last year a lot of pavement was removed at six schools and rain gardens were created to accept and filter stormwater. As part of the new stormwater utility, a community outreach program educates residents and business owners on steps they can take to help prevent CSO's.

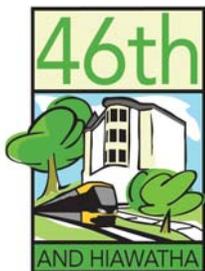
The City's sustainability plan goal to eliminate CSO's (combined sewer overflows) by 2014 was considered very aggressive, and it is. We may have an event again in the future and we definitely have more work to do, but I am proud of our accomplishment and our citizens' dedication to cleaning up the river. We are one of the first major cities in the country to accomplish this and we should all be proud.

~Sandy



46th St Development Strategy

Please join the **3rd public workshop** to see progress on the development strategy for the 46th and Hiawatha LRT Station area. It will be held Tues, Dec 4, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Hiawatha/Howe Community School, 4201 42nd Ave S. If you have questions, please call Project Coordinator Mark Garner at 612-673-5037.



The strategy will recommend public actions that could implement the adopted community plan for an environmentally sustainable housing and commercial district near the LRT station. Please bring your opinions and provide additional input to the advisory team.

CM Colvin Roy to Chair National Energy & Environment Committee

At the annual meeting of the National League of Cities (NLC) in November, Council Member Colvin Roy was appointed to Chair the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee. As Vice Chair for the past year, CM Colvin Roy led in the development of policy positions on global climate change and, for the first time, an action plan. NLC has adopted both.

The action plan includes creating a tool box for cities that are ready to reduce their use of energy and impact on air and water quality for both environmental and economic reasons.

The EENR Committee supports efforts of local officials by developing a federal advocacy platform to protect the environment and facilitates compliance with federal laws and regulations. NLC also provides research on environmental issues and offers workshops that provide new and updated information, explain new requirements and effective compliance strategies.

EVENTS & SPECIAL MEETINGS

Longfellow Energy Challenge Party, Dec 2, 3-5pm, Riverview Café, 3753 42nd Ave S.

46th St Station Development Workshop— Tues, Dec 4, 6:30-8:30pm, Hiawatha/Howe Community School gymnasium, 4201 42nd Ave S.

Minnehaha AARP Meeting— Thurs, Dec 6, 1pm at the Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 E. 50th St. Author Rev. Chuck Tindell, recipient of National Mature Media's Golden Award, will speak on 'Spirituality and Aging'.

Save Minnehaha Creek Meeting—Tues, Dec 11, 6:30pm, Wolfe Park Pavilion, 3700 Monterey Dr, St. Louis Park.

NENA Night Before New Year's Party, Dec 30, 5-8pm, Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. It's the best party in town for kids!

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

LCC Board - No meeting this month. For more information, visit www.longfellow.org

NENA Board - Thurs., Dec 20, 7pm For more information, visit www.nokomiseast.org

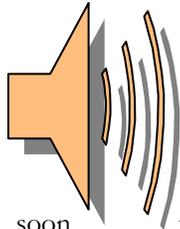
SENA Board - Mon, Dec 10, 7pm. For more information, visit www.standish-ericsson.org.

OPEN APPOINTMENTS

Civilian Police Review Authority, 6 vacancies, Closes 12/7/07.

Heritage Preservation Commission, 2 vacancies, Closes 12/14/07.

Information on these opportunities can be found at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/index.asp



Airport settlement: FAA Decision Expected Soon

The MAC settlement with the City's lawsuit is awaiting final review by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), who are expected to advise the MAC soon that the settlement is an appropriate use of airport revenue and consistent with federal grant obligations. This must happen for the settlement to go forward. Clarifying information for people who received the Notice from the Hennepin District Court regarding the class action settlement: If you want the noise relief provided in the City's settlement, do NOT opt out of the proposed class action settlement. If you are interested in receiving relief under the settlement, you do not need to do anything at this time. For further information, go to www.macnoise.com/settlement.

Summer Employment 2008

For a job next summer, young people between the ages of 14 and 21 should check out the STEP-UP Program. The deadline to apply is January 11th. In 2007, the City placed more than 2,050 Minneapolis youth in summer work experiences. These young workers gained both first-time and professional-level skills with local employers and community-based organizations.

STEP-UP applications can be picked up in the career and college centers in Minneapolis public high schools and at Minnesota Work-Force Centers and libraries. Applications are also available online at www.achievinneapolis.org/programs/stepUp_students.html.

Employers interested in offering jobs to 16 to 21 year-olds should contact Anne Krocak at (612) 455-1562 or akro-cak@achievinneapolis.org. For information about the program for 14 and 15 year olds, contact Anne Fischer at anne.fischer@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or (612) 673-6221.

Save Minnehaha Creek

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is working on a "Lakes Initiative" to gather interested groups of individuals together to serve as stewards over local resources. In most cases, this entails the development of a Lake Association; however, given the interest that people have in Minnehaha Creek, a similar group for individuals concerned about the Creek and the surrounding corridor will be convened. MCWD and Minnesota Waters will host a meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 6:30 pm in City of St. Louis Park, Wolfe Park Pavilion, 3700 Monterey Drive.

Longfellow Energy Challenge Party Come to the Riverview Café to learn about energy efficiency for your home. There will be FREE compact fluorescent light bulbs and lawn signs for all participants. Riverview Café, 3753 42nd Ave S, Dec 2, 3-5pm. Questions: Call Joanna at 722-4529.