



# 9th Ward E-News

From Minneapolis Council Member Gary Schiff

February 24, 2010

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## Legislators to discuss 2010 legislative session

State legislators from south Minneapolis will take questions from residents at Breakfast with Gary on Friday



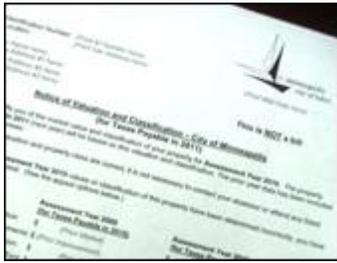
Clockwise from top left: Sen. Patricia Torres Ray, Sen. Linda Berglin, Rep. Jeff Hayden, Rep. Jim Davnie and Rep. Karen Clark

, February 26<sup>th</sup>. [Sen. Patricia Torres Ray](#), [Sen. Linda Berglin](#), [Rep. Jim Davnie](#), [Rep. Karen Clark](#) and [Rep. Jeff Hayden](#) will discuss their efforts to balance the state budget and create jobs.

“Minneapolis is facing an additional \$29 million cut to local government aid this year,” Council Member Gary Schiff said. “The city is also fighting cuts to general assistance medical care and looking for a strong jobs bill to stimulate the economy.”

Breakfast with Gary is a monthly meeting held from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. the final Friday of the month at the [Mercado Central](#), 1515 East Lake Street. \$5 buys breakfast.

## Property value appeal process opens



Minneapolis property owners will receive their 2010 valuation notice by the end of March.

Minneapolis property owners will receive their [valuation notice](#) in the mail by the end of March, according to Patrick Todd, city assessor. The value helps determine the amount of property taxes each property will be required to pay in 2011.

“We want people to call us if their assessed value is too high or if they have

questions about their property value,” City Assessor Patrick Todd says. “If a property owner does not agree with the estimated value for their home, there are a number of options for the owner.” To help answer questions, the assessors staff will hold a community meeting Wednesday, March 17, 2010 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Pearl Park Neighborhood Center, 414 East Diamond Lake Road,

“It is important that people call if they feel their home has been valued too high,” Council Member Gary Schiff said. “Often, corporate property owners have the resources to challenge their values, but residents don’t –which leads to homeowners paying more than their fair share in property taxes.”

The first step in challenging your value is to call the deputy assessor responsible for valuing your property. Explain why you believe your property value is less than indicated on the statement. The deputy assessor can explain how the value was determined, and will schedule a walk-through of your property.

If you and the assessor’s staff still do not agree, homeowners can file a formal appeal with the [Minneapolis Board of Appeals and Equalization. Applications](#) to the Minneapolis Board of Appeal and Equalization must be received by April 2, 2010.

For more information about filing an appeal, including the option of going straight to tax court, please check out the [Assessment Appeals Process](#).

**Learn how to create a sustainable neighborhood**



[Click here](#) to pre-register for the free conference.

The [Alliance for Sustainability](#) will hold its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Sustainability Conference on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Attendees will be able to find resources for spring and summer neighborhood projects. Workshops will cover topics such as community gardening, traffic calming and energy conservation.

The keynote speaker is Mark Lakeman from the [City Repair](#)

[Project](#). Lakeman will demonstrate how neighborhoods can calm traffic and build community through street painting and greening projects.

The public is invited to the free conference held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Central Lutheran Church, 333 12<sup>th</sup> Street South. Pre-registration is requested through the [Alliance for Sustainability website](#) or by calling 612-331-1099.

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